

Kaddoumi: PLO condemns terrorism

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation has always condemned terrorism but has the right under international law to resist Israeli occupation, its spokesman on foreign policy said on Monday. Farouk Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's political department, said: "If some believe that this policy is terrorism, so be it. We will continue our resistance to Israel, however long it may take and whatever sacrifices are needed." In an address in the U.N. General Assembly, Mr. Kaddoumi scoffed at peace proposals made here in October by Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres. "These are old views put in a new way in order to put some cosmetic changes on Israel's ugly face at the international level," Mr. Kaddoumi said. "We do not believe there is any reason for optimism for peace in the Middle East as long as the United States supports Israel and attempts to ignore the Palestine Liberation Organisation," he said. "Our people will continue its struggle for its inalienable rights and a just peace."

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Murphy arrives in S. Arabia

RIYADH (AP) — U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy arrived in Saudi Arabia on Monday for talks with King Fahd on Middle East peacemaking efforts in light of the outcome of the Geneva superpowers summit conference, diplomatic sources said. Mr. Murphy's visit to the kingdom comes after he held talks with leaders in Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Iraq as well as Israel. The U.S. official was reportedly planning to return to Israel at the conclusion of his talks here. In Baghdad on Sunday Mr. Murphy briefed Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on the outcome of the Geneva summit between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Baghdad Television said President Hussein and Mr. Murphy also discussed bilateral relations and exchanged views on the Iran-Iraq war and the situation in the Arab region. It quoted President Hussein as stressing Iraq's support for easing international tension and solving through dialogue complicated problems that threaten world peace and security.

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Somali minister arrives in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mohamed Ali Mahmoud arrived in Amman on Monday on a four-day official visit to Jordan during which he will convey a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Somali President, Mohammad Siad Barre. Mr. Mahmoud will also hold talks with senior Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest on both the Arab and international arenas. In an arrival statement, Mr. Mahmoud praised King Hussein's efforts on the Arab and international scenes to achieve Arab solidarity and serve Arab causes. He also lauded the strong relations between Jordan and Somalia.

ADC says fire in Washington office was deliberate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The head of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) said on Sunday he was convinced that a weekend fire that heavily damaged the ADC's Washington office was set by someone, "trying to silence all of us." While the fire remains under investigation by authorities, former U.S. Sen. James Abourezk, the committee's national chairman, said an independent fire investigator hired by the group has concluded it was deliberately set. "Whoever this is trying to intimidate the committee and trying to silence all of us. There's no question in my mind," Mr. Abourezk said in a telephone interview. "I'm absolutely sure it's arson. I'm absolutely sure it's political," he said.

Arab ministers to meet in Tunis

TUNIS (Petra) — The fourth session of the Arab Social Affairs Ministers Council will be held here on Dec. 16. During the three-day session participants will discuss achievements of the Arab Fund for Social Work and means of implementing a comprehensive social development strategy in the Arab World.

Iraq breaks lull in Kharg attacks

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi warplanes on Monday raided Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal in the Gulf waters after a three-day lull, a military spokesman said. The spokesman said the island terminal was raided at 1 p.m. The raiding jets "fiercely pounded their targets and returned safely to base," said the spokesman.

Shara'a says Syria will stand by Iran

TEHRAN (R) — Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara'a said on Monday Damascus would stick by Tehran and that rumours of differences between the two were a futile attempt to mislead. Tehran Radio reported. The radio said that in a meeting with Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, Mr. Shara'a "stressed Syria's solidarity with Iran." Mr. Shara'a is part of a high-level Syrian delegation visiting Tehran led by Prime Minister Abdul Raouf Al Kasm.

Senate rejects proposal to ease travel tax law

Prime minister says country needs improved revenue sources

By Lami K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said Monday that Jordan's economy is passing through "a difficult" period due to accumulated debts and deficits and therefore the government has to improve all sources of revenue available to it.

Mr. Rifai's remarks were made during an ordinary session of the Upper House of the Parliament (Senate) in response to suggestions by a number of senators to exempt students, children under the age of ten and government employees who travel on official assignments from paying the travel tax or at least to reduce the tax by half for the three categories.

The prime minister's reply put an end to a heated debate which was triggered by a basic disagreement between the Senate Financial Committee and some senators on the "justice" of collecting travel taxes from all Jordanian citizens without exception in order to increase the government's revenue.

The argument of the financial committee, as presented by its rapporteur Dr. Khalil Al Salem, was that Jordanians spend a large amount of money every year on tourism abroad and the government should make them pay at least a nominal amount by levying the travel tax so that the citizens contribute to increasing the country's revenue.

The counterargument by a number of senators, particularly Mr. Mudar Badran and Mr.

The amended version would have read:

— A fee of JD 5 will be collected from anyone who travels by sea or land and who holds a Jordanian passport on behalf of himself and all those included in the same passport.

— JD 10 will be collected from a holder of a Jordanian passport on behalf of himself and all those included in his/her passport when he/she or all those included in one passport travel by air.

Thus, the fee is fixed whether the holder of the passport travels alone or together with the other members of the family included in the same passport.

Dr. Salem said the Financial Committee preferred the original form in which the travel tax is collected on individual basis and not on a family basis.

But Mr. Badran criticised both the Lower House's amendment and the Financial Committee's recommendations saying that both versions "did not do justice."

He argued that the amendment "was not fair since many families obtain separate passports for the children." He suggested that children under 10 and students be exempted from the travel tax.

Mr. Tarawneh endorsed Mr. Badran's suggestion while the Financial Committee rapporteur rejected it.

Dr. Salem suggested instead that if there were to be any exemptions they should only include infants. But he added, he did not favour the idea of any kind of exemption.

He pointed out that Jordanians spend a lot of money on tourism without benefiting the government and that JD 80 million is spent yearly on educating Jordanian students abroad.

"The person who spends JD

(Continued on page 2)

Qalqilia curfew lifted but tension remains high in West Bank

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli occupation authorities on Monday lifted a curfew imposed on the occupied West Bank town of Qalqilia on Saturday but tension was high in the occupied territories in the wake of demonstrations and protests marking "Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People" on Nov. 29.

The curfew was imposed on Qalqilia on Saturday after an Israeli settler was shot and slightly wounded.

On Sunday, the body of an Israeli soldier was found near the Karyat Jatt settlement near Tel Aviv. Israeli Television said three people were suspected of kidnapping the soldier who was in his car and killing him.

Various cities and towns in the

West Bank were the scenes for demonstrations and political seminars and acts of protest against the Israeli occupation authorities over the weekend.

In Birzeit, students organised a big demonstration, while Ramallah students staged a strike and held a seminar on the history of the Palestine question and the relevant United Nations resolutions, the Palestinian News Agency, Wafa, said.

Israeli soldiers were stationed around West Bank and Gaza schools and educational institutions to prevent demonstrations.

In Hebron, Israeli soldiers broke into the Ibrahim Mosque and made a thorough inspection, without giving any reason, Wafa added.

Palestinian demonstrators sto-

ned Israeli vehicles near Shiyukh in the outskirts of Hebron. Israeli soldiers fired randomly in an attempt to terrify citizens, and arrested two Palestinians — Jamal Abdul Salam Al Halaika and Hatem Ismael Halaika, Wafa said.

Studies were suspended for one day in Bethlehem University and the Hebron Polytechnic Institute.

In Nablus, Israeli soldiers sealed off all entrances of Al Najah University and blocked all roads leading to the city and prevented all vehicles and buses from entering.

Israeli military sources were quoted by Agence France Presse (AFP) as saying that the Israeli

(Continued on page 3)

Taba talks resume today

CAIRO (AP) — Talks between Egypt and Israel on a border dispute resume on Tuesday after a two-month freeze, a senior Foreign Ministry official said on Monday.

Assistant Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Badawy, leader of the Egyptian delegation, also told reporters Egypt has not changed its insistence on international arbitration to resolve the issue.

Mr. Badawy spoke after he and four other members of his team conferred with Foreign Minister Esmat Meguid on Cairo's strategy at the three-day talks.

"Egypt is sticking to its declared position on recourse to international arbitration on the basis that all other methods have been exhausted," Mr. Badawy said.

The dispute centres on the one-square-kilometre Taba area overlooking the Aqaba Gulf at the southern end of the Egyptian-Israeli border, which each country claims as its own. Israel retained control of the area when it completed withdrawal from the Sinai Peninsula in April 1982 under a treaty between the two countries.

The 1979 treaty provides that disputes be settled by negotiation, conciliation or arbitration, in that order. Israel maintains that non-binding conciliation should be tried before binding arbitration.

Spy case was of 'limited' importance, Peres contends

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres said Monday that the case of a U.S. Navy analyst accused of spying for Israel was of "limited and passing importance" to Israeli-American relations.

Peres told reporters after meeting with U.S. Jewish leaders that the espionage affair was an "isolated incident" and not the result of an Israeli government policy to spy on its ally.

"I think when you have a single failure and not the failure of a policy, it is of limited and passing importance," said Peres, who sent an apology to the Reagan administration on Sunday.

But the head of the American Jewish delegation which met with Peres proposed high-level consultations between the two countries to discuss possible "inadequacies" in the flow of intelligence information from the United States to Israel.

Kenneth Blakely said in an Israeli Radio interview that Israel must "utilise its good offices with the United States to obtain as much of it (intelligence) as possible on a friendly and positive basis."

But he added that "to the extent that that has not been forthcoming, I think there have to be

additional conversations at the highest levels to try to build in those areas where perhaps there are inadequacies."

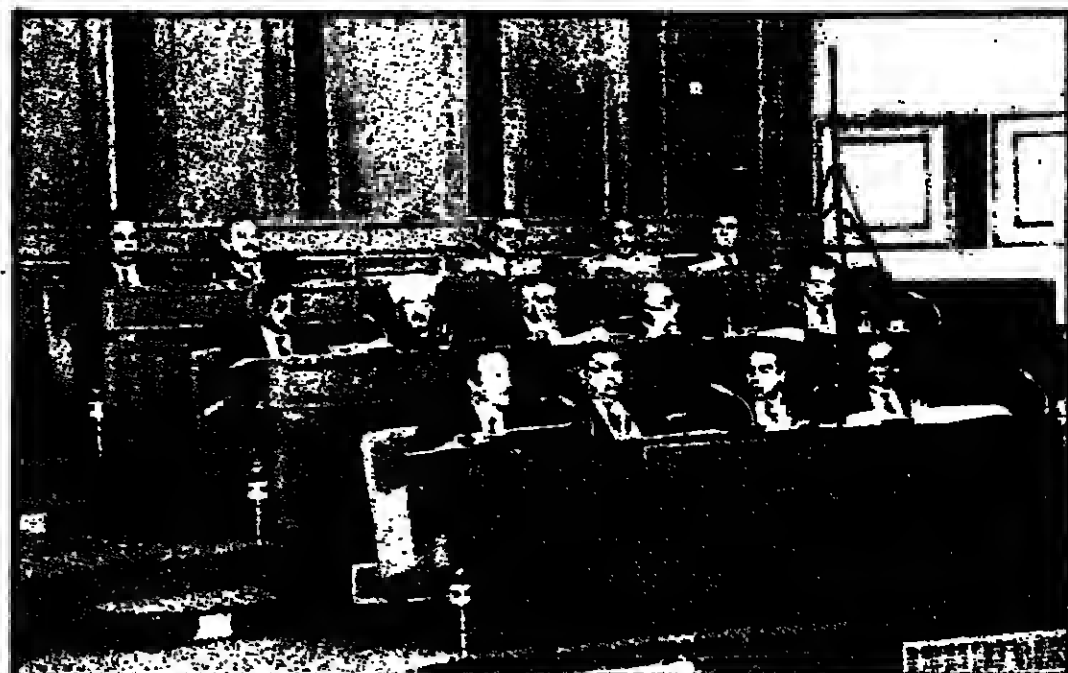
The Jerusalem Post reported on Sunday that the information analyst Jonathan J. Pollard sold the Israelis should have been made available to them, especially since it concerned countries which do not have formal ties with Israel, particularly China and Taiwan, and detailed capabilities of Soviet weapons systems used by Arab countries (See page 2).

The prime minister was quoted as telling the 80-member Jewish delegation at a closed-door breakfast meeting that he had cleared up the controversy with U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz on the telephone.

"In that conversation, we reached complete agreement and understanding and the matter was entirely cleared up," said Peres, who added Mr. Shultz had called him at 3:30 a.m. Sunday morning.

Peres was quoted by delegation spokesman Richard Cohen.

Peres' spokesman Uri Sevir declined comment on Israeli media reports that a former Mossad spy-master and two Israeli science attaches who reportedly were involved in the spy case may be allowed to talk with U.S.



Prime Minister Zaid Rifai addresses the Upper House of Parliament on Monday (Petra photo)

Egypt signals easing of tension on border

CAIRO (R) — Egypt has signalled an easing of tension on its western frontier with Libya by allowing some troops to take leave, military sources said on Monday.

The sources said officers began to rotate on 48-hour home leave for the first time since an armed alert was called 10 days ago after the hijacking of an Egyptian airliner to Malta.

"The start of leave indicate things are slowly returning to normal," one source said.

Egyptian officials had said border security was stepped up after the hijack for defensive purposes. They denied Libyan charges that Cairo was preparing for war.

Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid on Monday said: "We have strong ties with the Libyan people. But the Libyan leadership has recently launched a series of operations unacceptable to us."

He mentioned, as examples, an aborted attempt by four Libyan gunmen on Nov. 11 to kill a group of Libyan exiles in Cairo, and the hijack of an Egyptian plane between Greece and Egypt on Nov. 23, which ended in Malta with 60 deaths.

"There is some evidence showing Libyan involvement in the hijacking," he said without elaborating.

Libya has denied any involvement in the hijack.

The Kuwaiti Arabic newspaper Al Rai Al Aam reported on Monday that the Soviet Union has taken steps to mediate an end to tension between Egypt and Libya.

Quoting "reliable sources" in Cairo, it said the Soviet ambassador to Egypt returned on Sunday from a trip to Moscow with a message from the Kremlin for President Hosni Mubarak.

The message told him of Libya's willingness to restore friendly relations, and conveyed Moscow's support for any steps to promote this, the daily said.

In Damascus, Abdul Mohsen Abu Maizer, a senior Palestinian official, denied a British newspaper report on Sunday that he masterminded the hijacking.

"It's pure lies," Mr. Abu Maizer told reporters Sunday night. "Those who are spreading such lies are people with a sick mind and twisted imagination."

The Observer weekly reported Sunday that Mr. Abu Maizer was the mystery man who Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak says planned the hijacking.

Mr. Abu Maizer, a member of the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF), said he and the PNSF will sue the newspaper "for publishing such lies and for attempting to harm the PNSF and its leaders."

The New York Times reported on Monday that U.S. officials, admit that three American military officers travelled on a plane to Malta with the Egyptian commandos who stormed the hijacked Egyptian jet.

The U.S. officers were sent primarily as a gesture of political support for the Egyptians, the officials said.

Cabinet decision allows private lending for investing in securities

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet has decided to allow banks and financial companies to grant loans and credit facilities, for the purpose of investments in Jordan securities in accordance with regulations issued by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), provided that the loans be wholly confined to the purpose of investments in securities in the primary market and the secondary market of stocks and shares or other securities and that the CBJ define terms for such credit facilities and guarantees.

The Cabinet also decided to allow "banks" and financial companies, and upon consent from the financier, to either maintain securities under their original owners or open an account under the title of "investments in securities for a third party" provided that such investments be officially recorded in the company's registers as a trust account and to be regarded as such in other dealings with other financial institutions and banks. Thus the original owner of the account will have the right to:

- A. Vote in a general assembly meeting.
- B. Receive dividends, with the trusted bank or financial company acting as agent.
- C. Holding the right to handle securities in accordance with an agreement concluded with the lending body.

The Cabinet entrusted CBJ to cooperate with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Amman Financial Market in issuing regulations for the application and implementation of the second aforementioned decision.

In addition, the Cabinet issued the following decisions to promote the basic framework for operations of the Amman Financial Market:

Two investment companies are to be set up and to be entrusted to act as agents and market developers in the financial market with the purpose of handling transactions in securities, for their own benefit and for others, and to pledge to ensure a cover for subscriptions. The following regulations will cover the two companies:

The public share-holding company will have an initial capital of JD 3 million of which 49 per cent will be covered by the Social Security Corporation, the Pension Fund, the Postal Saving Fund, and the Jordanian Universities' Investments Funds.

The remaining 51 per cent will be covered by the public in the form of shares.

The second public share-holding investment company will have a JD 2 million capital split as under:

Sixty per cent to be covered by employees' funds. Forty per cent to be offered for the public as shares.

The two companies will be permitted to establish joint account

investment companies using Jordanian and Arab funds to invest in Jordanian securities. Such companies' capitals will be in accordance with their activities and should be organised and licensed in accordance with regulations set by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

To ensure the smooth running of work and to facilitate and simplify the transfer of security titles and to minimise such procedures, an integrated centre is to be set up to transfer and deposit the securities. Incorporated companies listed in the Amman Financial Market will be included in the centre, which will be under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Amman Financial Market. The Ministry of Industry and Trade will take the necessary arrangements for setting up the centre, including the definition of the shareholdings and methods of work.

A committee grouping representatives of the Ministry of Finance and Customs, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the CBJ and the Amman Financial Market will be formed. The committee will make recommendations on the rules, laws and procedures allowing for more investment opportunities in the Amman Financial Market by Arab nationals, provided that the committee accomplishes its work within two weeks.

Lebanese alliance, SLA reportedly braced for showdown near Jezzine

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Israeli-backed militiamen and fighters of the Lebanese Popular Liberation Front were reported bracing for a showdown in South Lebanon on Monday while Lebanese commandos said two of their men were killed in an attack on Israeli troops and their militia allies.

Beirut's An Nahar and As Safir newspapers warned that a major clash appeared imminent between the mainly South Lebanon Army (SLA), backed by Israel, and the Syrian-supported Popular Liberation Front (PLF).

Shi'ite Amal militia leader Nabih Berri said Monday shelling of South Lebanon by the SLA would bring retaliation against Israeli settlements.

"Continued shelling of the southern villages would prompt a

reply against Israeli settlements," said Mr. Berri.

Mr. Berri was speaking to reporters after talks in Beirut with General William Callaghan, the commander of U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) peacekeeping troops.

The Amal leader, a key ally of Syria in Lebanon, reiterated a demand that Israel withdraw its remaining forces and called for implementation of U.N. Security Council resolutions mandating UNIFIL to deploy down to the frontier.

There was no independent confirmation of the reported buildup by the SLA and the PLF, an alliance of Lebanese forces including Amal.

But it followed weeks of sporadic clashes between the SLA

King sends good wishes to UAE

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Monday sent a congratulatory cable to United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahayan.

In his cable, the King congratulated the UAE leaders on occasion of the UAE national day. King Hussein also wished the people of UAE every success and prosperity under the leadership of Sheikh Zayed.

The UAE marked its 14th National Day on Monday with a two-day holiday and a one-day symbolic unification of radio-TV transmissions from the largest states in the federation — Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

The federation, created in 1971, also comprises the emirates of Sharjah, Ajman, Um Al Quwain, Fujaira, and Ras Al Khaimah.

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Saudis set terms for relations with Soviets

BEIRUT (AP) — Saudi Arabia's defence minister said in an interview published Monday his country would consider exchanging diplomatic ties with the Soviet Union only when Moscow takes a "non-belligerent attitude" towards Soviet Muslims.

Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz also said Saudi Arabian crews and technicians were now "flying, operating and maintaining" U.S.-supplied early warning radar planes known as AWACS.

Prince Sultan's interview appeared in the Beirut daily Al-Anwar and its London-based weekly sister As-Sayyid.

Asked whether the world's largest oil exporting nation would follow suit of its two Gulf neighbours, Oman and the United Arab Emirates, in establishing diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union, Prince Sultan said: "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

also asserted that his country was "strong enough militarily" to defend itself and its Arab neighbours in case the war spills over to the rest of the Gulf region.

"There can be no victor in the Gulf war. Both nations will end up vanquished if the war continues," the prince said.

Prince Sultan said the Saudi Air Force has had the AWACS planes long enough to "make Saudi crews capable of flying, operating and maintaining them."

The United States provided the sophisticated airborne radars to Saudi Arabia in 1980, when Iran was threatening to extend the Gulf war to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Arab nations.

The AWACS planes can detect an aerial attack in the region early enough to scramble interceptors to thwart it. They were operated by American crews when they first arrived in the kingdom.

wants to see a Soviet non-belligerent attitude toward Islam in order to consider the question of diplomatic relations."

Prince Sultan accused the Soviet government of curbing the nearly 100 million Muslims in the Soviet Union from practicing their religious beliefs.

"The Koran is sold in secret for as much as \$1,200 and this shows the extent of curbing the practice of religious beliefs there," Prince Sultan said.

Prince Sultan said Saudi Arabia would renew efforts to bring Iran and Iraq to the negotiating table to end their five-year-old war. He

Cyprus begins trial of Larnaca gunmen

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Amid confusion over "guilty" pleas, three Palestinian sympathisers went on trial Monday for the Sept. 25 killings of three Israelis aboard a yacht in a Larnaca marina.

Khaled Abu Khalifa, 28, Abdul Hakim Saado Al Khalifa, 29, and Briton Ian Michael Davison, 27, each faced three counts of murder.

Khalifa and Khalifa pleaded guilty through an interpreter to the first count of murdering Esther Palmuz, 53, and Davison said: "I admit the charge."

Told to answer directly, Davison repeated his statement. Each of the accused then said "I admit the killing" to the charges of murdering Reuben Palmuz, 53, and Abraham Avner, 57.

After consultation with the other two assize judges, Court President Judge John Poyiadjis then ordered that "not guilty" pleas be entered for all the defendants on all the charges.

The Larnaca killings provoked an Israeli air mid reprisal against the headquarters in Tunis of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on Oct. 1, in which more than 60 Palestinians and Tunisians were killed.

Prosecution and defence lawyers had both advised the judges to accept the pleas as "guilty" but Judge Poyiadjis said there was reasonable doubt that the accused had not fully understood the implications of a guilty plea.

Khalifa and Khalifa spoke in Arabic translated into Greek. Davison spoke first in English, then Arabic.

Defence lawyers told reporters, crowding the courtroom that the accused men disagreed with the moral implication of the word "guilty" but had intended to admit the killing of the Israelis.

Opening the case for the prosecution, counsel Michael Kyriakou pleaded for a non-political trial.

"It is not our purpose to attribute any political or other col-

ouring to this case," he said, adding that no evidence for motive would be entered.

"Any motive leading to the extermination of human lives is unforgivable and does not justify any deviation from the strict application of the letter of the law," Mr. Kyriakou said.

Men of the special Mobile Police Reserve, including Kalushnikov automatic rifles, their arms stood guard outside the court room door and more than 20 others patrolled outside the building as part of the special security precautions.

Davison, wearing a grey knitted pullover with leather elbow pads, occasionally stroked a short grey beard that he has grown since his arrest two months ago. He listened attentively as Mr. Kyriakou read his opening statement in English.

The two Palestinians huddled close to the court interpreter to take in every word as he translated Mr. Kyriakou's address simultaneously into Arabic, speaking in a soft voice. Khalifa, clean shaven and wearing a grey flannel suit but no tie, who is about six feet tall, towered over the diminutive Khalifa.

The hearing was adjourned for Tuesday after Mr. Kyriakou completed his address.

According to the indictment the prosecution intends to call 43 witnesses, indicating the trial is likely to continue for at least a fortnight.

There is no capital punishment in Cyprus and the maximum sentence that the court can pass on the accused if they are found guilty of premeditated murder as charged, is life imprisonment.

Sudan releases 23 detainees

KHARTOUM (R) — Sudanese Attorney-General Omar Abdul Ati has ordered the release of 23 civilians detained without trial since an alleged coup attempt over two months ago, the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said Monday.

Mr. Abdul Ati also recommended that police free 11 military reservists held in connection with the coup attempt, which

begin with a mutiny at two Khartoum barracks, SUNA reported.

He said only 27 civilians remained in prison, including priest-politician Philip Abbas Ghaleb, alleged mastermind behind the bid for power, and he had instructed judicial authorities to complete their interrogations within two weeks to decide if they should also be freed.

Informed sources in Nablus said that the Israeli occupation authorities were preparing for a "massacre" of Arab prisoners in Judea if they continued to "disobey" orders.

On Friday, Israeli authorities deported Kamal Hussein Nassar, who have been released from an Israeli prison in May. The authorities charged that he is not in possession of any identity card and to prove that he was from the West Bank.

The Israeli official was not named, although Friedman quoted Israeli newspapers as saying it was Rafael Eitan, a former adviser on counter-terrorism to prime ministers Menachem Begin and Yitzhak Shamir.

A report in The Los Angeles Times said a "little-known, Israeli intelligence operation serving the Defence Ministry" was "behind the (Pollard) affair."

The findings claim that a senior Israeli official in Israel was "running his own espionage operation" in Washington and neither the Israeli intelligence community nor his own political superiors knew about it.

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Shimon Peres leads camelback spy mission into the Negev in 1945

Peres was jailed for spying

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres was arrested and jailed by the British authorities in Palestine in 1945 while leading a spy mission into the Negev, according to reports published in Israel.

Peres revealed this in his memoirs appearing in the current issue of the Israeli magazine, Eidan.

Peres, then 22, headed a group of Jewish spies, mounted on camels, into the Negev where they mapped tracks and oases.

According to the regulations during the British mandate of Palestine the Negev was a restricted military area.

Peres' group was discovered by the British troops at Umm Ras-hraish (nowadays called Eilat) and arrested. They were taken to Beersheba, sentenced and jailed for two weeks.

A few years later the information gathered by Peres was used during the 1948 war against Arab armies fighting for Palestine.

"The operation is outside the traditional Israeli intelligence community and functions particularly to gather scientific and technical information," the paper said.

According to The Times, the Israeli examination, conducted by Prime Minister Peres, Foreign Minister Shamir and Defence Minister Rabin, came to four key conclusions:

"First, it found that Pollard approached Israel in the spring of 1984 and volunteered to get classified information that might be useful to the Israeli government; that he appeared to have been primarily motivated by zealous pro-Israeli sentiments, that he later asked for money in some services."

"Second, it found that the Israeli who oversaw his activities was a senior counterterrorism official apparently associated with the office of the prime minister's adviser on terrorism. That office is a highly secretive, independent body that looks into all forms of terrorism against Israel."

According to the report, the Israeli official "funnelled some information he got from Pollard to the general Israeli intelligence community without identifying the source or telling his political superiors what he was doing."

Third, the Israeli examination reported that Pollard initially offered to obtain American intelligence information about Arab armies and Soviet military hardware in use in the Arab World, and was encouraged to do so by his Israeli contact. Eventually, Pollard also sent his contact top secret American intelligence reports

Israel hopes spy case will not permanently harm U.S. relations

By Nicolas B. Tatro
Associated Press

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Shimon Peres' government hopes its belated apology for using a navy analyst as a spy will stem the controversy and prevent lasting damage to U.S.-Israeli ties.

The strain caused by the arrest of navy counterintelligence expert Jonathan Pollard, a 31-year-old American Jew, was the worst since the rift caused by Israel's invasion of Lebanon in June 1982.

Officials and commentators expressed concern that a continuing flap would affect Israel's relations with the U.S. Congress, which has been generous in providing economic and military aid which total \$4 billion in the current year.

Pending legislation includes a proposal to reduce interest rates on the repayment of debts from 11 per cent to 7 per cent. The change could have a major impact on Israel's economic recovery programme by saving the treasury an estimated \$700 million, officials said.

Congress has also supported Israel on key policy questions such as U.S. arms sale to Jordan that had been proposed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan's administration as an enticement to the

Arabs for peacemaking.

There also was concern the Pollard case might provoke a change in public opinion that would rebound on the Jewish community in the United States, which numbers about 6 million.

"The shadow cast by the Pollard affair on U.S. Jewry is no less severe than the tension caused by the affair between the two governments," the liberal Haaretz daily said in an editorial Sunday.

Haaretz said Jews had "persuaded most of the American public that the support they offer to every Israeli interest does not contradict their devotion to their American homeland..."

The conservative daily Maariv newspaper said that Peres, Rabin and Shamir had been more willing to risk a rift with the United States than an internal political dispute that could topple the 15-month-old coalition government.

The newspaper said that no single official was responsible, and that no one was willing to take the blame.

"There are political complications, with the current coalition so delicate and involved that almost every (cabinet) minister has a political patron, with the firing of a minister liable to set off an internal political dispute of major proportions," said Maariv.

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zhak Shamir had been "inundated with reports from American congressional and Jewish leaders about the extent of the damage."

Israel's apology was conditional: Action would be taken against those responsible only if suspicions were borne out by an internal investigation.

No firm indication was given whether Israel would cooperate with U.S. authorities or account for documents Pollard gave to Israel.

The conservative daily Maariv newspaper said that Peres, Rabin and Shamir had been more willing to risk a rift with the United States than an internal political dispute that could topple the 15-month-old coalition government.

The newspaper said that no single official was responsible, and that no one was willing to take the blame.

"There are political complications, with the current coalition so delicate and involved that almost every (cabinet) minister has a political patron, with the firing of a minister liable to set off an internal political dispute of major proportions," said Maariv.

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JORDAN TELEVISION	
7:00	Koran
7:30	Cartoon
7:45	Children Programme
8:15	The Eleventh Hour
8:30	Just Our Luck
8:45	News programme
9:00	Tomorrow's programme
9:15	News in Arabic
9:30	Arabic Series
9:45	Tomorrow's Programme and varieties
10:00	21:45 Road to Jerusalem (Arabic Series)
10:15	News in Arabic
10:30	Series Continued
FOREIGN CHANNEL	
10:00	555 kHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.6 kHz, SW 774/11-19
07:00	Light Music
07:30	News Desk
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show Contd.
09:30	Pop Session Contd.
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Pop Session Contd.
11:00	News Summary
11:30	Pop Session Contd.
12:00	News Bulletin
12:30	Instrumentals
13:00	Country Music
13:30	Concert Hour
14:00	News Summary
14:30	Instrumentals
15:00	Old Favourites
15:30	Science Report
16:00	News Summary
16:30	Top Twenty
17:00	Newsdesk
17:30	Date with a Star
18:00	Evening Show
18:30	News Summary
19:00	Evening Show Contd.
19:30	News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

- * Contemporary Egyptian art at Jordan National Museum (until Dec. 10)
- * French exhibition "L'ethnographie, du xix^e siècle" at the French Cultural Centre (until Dec. 6).
- * An art exhibition by Iraqi artist Dia Al Azzawi at the Royal Cultural Centre (until Dec. 10).
- * West German architecture exhibition "New Buildings in Old Settings" organised by the German Institute at the University of Jordan's Department of Architecture (until Dec. 4)
- * An exhibition on the French telefilm system "Antiope" at 6:30 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre (until Dec. 14)
- * Islamic book exhibition at Yarmouk University's Islamic Centre (until Dec. 11)

VIDEO

- * Video art "L'art en question" at 4:00 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.

FILM WEEK

- * Italian Film Week at the Royal Cultural Centre daily at 8:00 p.m. Tonight's film: "A Fist Full of Dollars."

CULTURAL CENTRES

- * Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 661026/7
- * American Centre 664371
- * American Centre Library 641520
- * British Council 636147-R
- * French Cultural Centre 637009
- * Goethe Institute 641993
- * Soviet Cultural Centre 644020
- * Spanish Cultural Centre 626409
- * Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
- * Haya Arab Centre 645195
- * Hussein Youth City 647181/86
- * Y.W.C.A. 641793
- * Y.W.M.A. 664251
- * American Municipal Library 637111
- * University of Jordan Library 843555

SERVICE CLUBS

- Lions Amman Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
- Lions Philadelphia Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel. 7:30 p.m.
- Philadelphia Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn. 1:30 p.m.
- Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Intercontinental Hotel. 2:00 p.m.
- Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman. Eighth Circle. Tel. 815261, 815410.

CHURCHES

- St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590
- Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luvadhil. 637440.
- De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Haseen. 661757.
- Church of the Assumption (Greek Orthodox) Abadi. 623541.
- Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. 678906.
- Armenian Catholicos Church Ashrafieh. 771331.
- Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh. 775261.
- St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh. 771751.
- Armenian Interfaith Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern Baptist school in Amman. 677534.
- Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman. 6th Circle. (Rev. N. Smir). Tel. 811295.
- Rainbow Congregation (Interdenominational) meets in the Church of the Redeemer. Jabal Amman. Tel. 663249.

PRAYER TIMES

04:53	Fajr
06:20	Suhoor (Sawar)
11:25	Dhuhr
04:12	Asr
16:30	Maghreb
17:58	Isha

Queen Noor pays visit to British Council

AMMAN (Petra) — Her Majesty Queen Noor Monday visited the British Council and inspected one of the training courses for teachers of English that is sponsored by the Royal Endowment for Culture and Education. The Royal Endowment, which is part of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation, also sponsors other courses organised by the University of Jordan and Yarmouk University.

Her Majesty met with participants in the course and discussed with them the benefit they derive from the course, the problems they face and the importance of such courses to raise the standard of English teaching in Jordan.

The courses are designed to support the Ministry of Education's efforts to benefit teachers of English in state schools. These English training courses aim at upgrading the level of English language proficiency scholarship recipients. In addition, they are geared towards improving methods of teaching English as a foreign language. Approximately 175 teachers have benefited from Eng-

lish teacher training programmes sponsored by the Royal Endowment since the beginning of 1984. The Noor Al Hussein Foundation will back similar courses annually, in view of the importance of the English language as an international language and its significance to Jordan's development needs in the exchange of expertise and technology, especially in medicine, science, and applied disciplines like agriculture, commerce and communications.

During the visit, Her Majesty led a discussion on the aims, objectives, organisation, and means of improving and developing the programme. Representatives of the Ministry of Education, the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, the Executive Committee of the Royal Endowment, and the British Council participated in the discussion.

The Royal Endowment has initiated a programme of scholarships for outstanding graduates of these courses to attend the newly established diploma course at the University of Jordan.



Her Majesty Queen Noor meets with participants in the English teachers training course at the British Council on Monday (Petra photo)

Polish company to help increase glass production

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — A technical cooperation agreement was signed Monday between the Jordan Glass Factories Company (JGFC) and Polimex-Cekop Company of Poland.

Under the agreement, the Polish company will provide the JGFC with a number of specialists in the glass industry to help develop and improve glass production in Jordan. The Commercial Counsellor and Charge d'Affaires at the Polish Embassy in Amman, Mr. Jacek Szydlowski, told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Szydlowski also said that the Polish experts will train JGFC staff and upgrade their efficiency in an effort to raise the factory's production capacity. Polish experts will also help develop existing machines and equipment and will advise the company at a later stage of their future requirements of machines and equipment.

The two-year agreement also provides for developing the machines and equipment with the aim of raising the production capacity to 12,000 tonnes a year during the

next four months and then to 18,000 tonnes a year in the four consecutive months and lastly to 23,000 tonnes, the maximum capacity, by the end of the year 1986, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra said.

Speaking about the agreement, Mr. Szydlowski said that it is very important for Poland because it gives the Polish people the benefit of cooperation with Jordan. "It is also important for us because it gives Polish experts the opportunity to become well-known in the region," the commercial counsellor added. He also expressed hope that the Polish technical expertise would contribute to an increase in production and towards developing glass market domestically and abroad.

Signing the agreement for the JGFC was its chairman of the board of directors while it was signed for the Polish company by Mr. Jacek Szydlowski. The conclusion of this agreement comes in implementation of the government's instructions to extend large industries and to develop financial support to them in order to enable the industrial sector to play a contributing role in the national economy.

King sends cable of thanks to Lawzi

AMMAN (Petra) — Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi has received a cable of thanks from His Majesty King Hussein in reply to the congratulatory cable the speaker sent to the King on the Prophet Mohammad's birthday.

Senate rejects proposal

(Continued from page 1)

5,000 on educating his son or daughter abroad can easily afford to pay the tax," Dr. Salem argued. But Mr. Amer Khamash, the former minister of court, who also expressed support for Mr. Badran's proposal, suggested the exemption includes all minors, since "they rely on their parents' for finance."

Mr. Tarawneh, a former minister of justice, then offered a compromise suggestion that both children under 10 and all students pay half the amount of the travel tax.

Apparently encouraged by the support his suggestion received, Mr. Badran, a former prime minister, proposed that government employees who travel on official assignments should also be exempted from the travel tax and pointed out that "neighbouring countries" completely exempt children under 10 from the tax.

But Senators Thughan Al Hindawi, Mohammad Marar and Walid Salah strongly opposed the idea of exemptions. They argued that "the country needed the money."

At this point, Mr. Rifai interjected in favour of the original draft against both the Lower House amendments and the senators' suggestions. "The government has to improve its sources of revenue," he said. "Our economic situation is difficult due to accumulated debts and deficits."

Mr. Rifai did not disclose the amount of the deficit or the debts but said that the draft budget of 1986 will be submitted for the two Houses of Parliament for discussion and approval soon.

The 1986 budget will be discussed in the Lower House of the Parliament on Wednesday, according to informed sources.

The prime minister strongly disagreed with Mr. Badran's proposal for exempting government employees and students from the travel tax.

He divided the government employees who travel on official missions into two categories;

First, those who travel on special and official assignments and "these are paid full per diems."

Second, those who travel in response to official invitations from other countries. These people receive 25 per cent of the usual per diems and the Ministry of Finance refunds the travel taxes they pay. "Therefore, I see no need to exempt government employees from the travel tax," Mr. Rifai said.

Mr. Rifai also argued that most poor students who win scholarships to study abroad do not return until they graduate and "thus they only pay the travel tax once."

The prime minister urged the Senate to approve the original law as was recommended by the Financial Committee. Mr. Rifai's statement turned out to be decisive in favour of the Financial Committee's recommendation and all the senators, except three, endorsed the original law without any amendment.

The Upper House also referred two temporary laws to a joint session of both Houses for a final decision after disagreements emerged between the two Houses on amendments to the concerned laws.

The laws are the Postal Saving Fund Law and the Credit Certificates Law. According to Parliament bye-laws if a law is rejected by one of the two Houses twice it is referred to a joint session of the two Houses.

The Senate also approved a number of temporary laws on Monday. They included the Agaba Railway Corporation Law, an amendment law to the Municipal Buildings and Lands Tax Law, the Cities and Village Development Law, an annex to the 1983 Budget Law and the Jordanian Islamic Bank for Investment and Financing Law.

The session was followed by a closed meeting between the prime minister and the Upper House members in which Mr. Rifai briefed the senators and deputies who attended Monday's session on the latest political developments.

Police in Italy arrest Jordanian passport holder

VERONA, Italy (AP) — Police said Monday they have arrested a man who holds a Jordanian passport and who claims to be an official of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), on terrorist and illegal arms charges.

An official of the Carabinieri, the Italian para-military police, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said Omar Sadat Salem Abdul Fatah was arrested last Thursday in the northern Italian city.

Investigating magistrates are looking into the possibility that the man is connected with the October hijacking of the Achille Lauro cruise liner and with two bombings in Rome in September, the official said. Suspects believed to be Palestinian have been arrested in all three incidents.

He refused to say what led police to the man's arrest but said authorities had confiscated almost 20 kilograms of explosives, a remote control device with five timers, two Polish-made sub-machine guns, ammunition and three pistols, one equipped with a silencer.

The official said the man, whose passport says he was born in Jordan, told authorities he was an official of Fatah, the main PLO group headed by PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat.

He was charged with belonging to an armed band with terrorist ends and illegal transport and possession of arms.

The official said the man was believed to have been in Italy from late August to mid-October, had gone back to Jordan and then returned to Verona about 10 days ago.

Also arrested was an Italian woman, Fulvia Boni, who was charged with collaboration in the possession of arms. The arms cache was found at her house, where the two arrests were made, the official said.

Cause of truck-schoolbus crash unclear as witnesses make conflicting statements

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The reasons behind Friday's tragic truck-schoolbus collision which claimed the lives of 13 people are unclear after one of the survivors claimed that a third vehicle, and not any negligence on the part of the busdriver, caused the accident.

Initial reports, quoting eyewitness accounts of the accident, which took place on the Amman-Aqaba Highway some 80 kilometres south of Amman, said it was caused by speeding and wrong overtaking by the busdriver. The head-on collision with the tanker-truck killed nine students, three teachers and the busdriver with four students surviving the crash.

One of the four survivors, 18-year-old John Jamar, told the Jordan Times on Monday that a third vehicle, which he could not identify, hit the schoolbus from behind pushing it into the path of the oncoming tanker-truck.

According to the police report, the accident occurred when the busdriver wrongly overtook another vehicle and swerved to the left in order to avoid the collision, (but since the oncoming truck had also swerved to the same side the collision resulted).

Jamar made a statement implicating a third vehicle in the direct call programme of Radio Jordan on Sunday. When contacted by the Jordan Times on Monday

Jamar confirmed his statement. But Hanna Balata, another survivor of the accident, said the crash occurred when the busdriver tried to avoid hitting a man who was trying to cross the highway. Balata quoted another survivor, Bassem Jeldah, who was sitting near a side window, as saying that the busdriver swerved left to avoid the pedestrian but could not steer the vehicle to the right before the oncoming tanker hit it. Balata also ruled out Jamar's contention that a third vehicle was involved in the accident but his statement was backed by another survivor who told police that the occupants of the bus felt a sudden jolt and shock moments before the crash took place.

Police said Monday they had no reason to doubt the authenticity of their first reports which were made on the spot, but added that investigations were continuing.

Police spokesman Major Tawfiq Jaidei said the first information report was based on eyewitness testimonies and added that the new statements made by the survivors were under investigation.

The dead were buried in Amman in an emotional ceremony, attended by thousands of schoolchildren, teachers, relatives and friends of the bereaved families.

The schoolbus from the Seventh Day Adventist School in Amman was on a school outing to Petra when the accident took place.

Editorial page 4

Jordanian to head Arab cement union

DAMASCUS (Petra) — Mr. Ahmad Al Roussan will assume his new duties as secretary general of the Arab Union for Cement and Building Materials next week. Mr. Roussan, who has been selected out of ten candidates, held senior posts at the Jordan Cement Factory Company and the Arab Geologists Union. He has also prepared many research papers on cement and building materials.

Rifai, visiting Egyptian minister review labour, employment issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai conferred in his office Monday with visiting Egyptian Minister of State for Immigration and Egyptian Expatriates William Najib Seifein.

They discussed bilateral cooperation in organising the employment of workers in a manner which would safeguard the interests of both sides in implementation of resolutions taken at meetings by the Higher Joint Jordanian Egyptian Committee in Cairo.

The meeting was held in the presence of Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaleel Al Haj Hassan and a delegation accompanying the Egyptian minister as well as Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wahbeh.

Earlier Monday, Mr. Seifein held a meeting with Mr. Haj Hassan to discuss Jordanian-Egyptian cooperation in labour-related affairs and employment.

Mr. Haj Hassan expressed interest in following Egypt's example

in creating a company for expatriates to take care of their investments in the home country, especially in housing. He said that Jordan might benefit from Egypt's experience in this respect in implementation of resolutions passed by the first Jordanian expatriates conference held in Amman in July of this year. Senior officials and the Egyptian delegation also attended the meeting.

Minister meets Egyptian community in Jordan

Later in the day, the visiting minister met with the Egyptian community in Jordan and outlined future prospects for Egyptian expatriates to invest part of their revenues in the country. Addressing the gathering, Mr.

Seifein stressed Egypt's interest in creating cooperation and continuous interaction between the 2.4 million expatriates and their homeland. Expatriates are requested to help contribute towards paying back Egypt's foreign debts which amount to \$24.2 billion, Mr. Seifein said.

He outlined the various investment and development projects which are planned in Egypt and those currently under construction. He went on to discuss several agricultural and industrial projects which are to be financed through local funds rather than depending on international loans.

During Prime Minister Zaid Rifai's recent visit to Egypt, both countries decided to establish a joint holding company and joint ventures that would invest funds in a number of joint projects.

The projected holding company with a capital of \$50 million will supervise the implementation of joint agricultural and business projects and market their products in both countries and abroad.

Azzawi highlights Arab calligraphy, geometry with use of colour, space

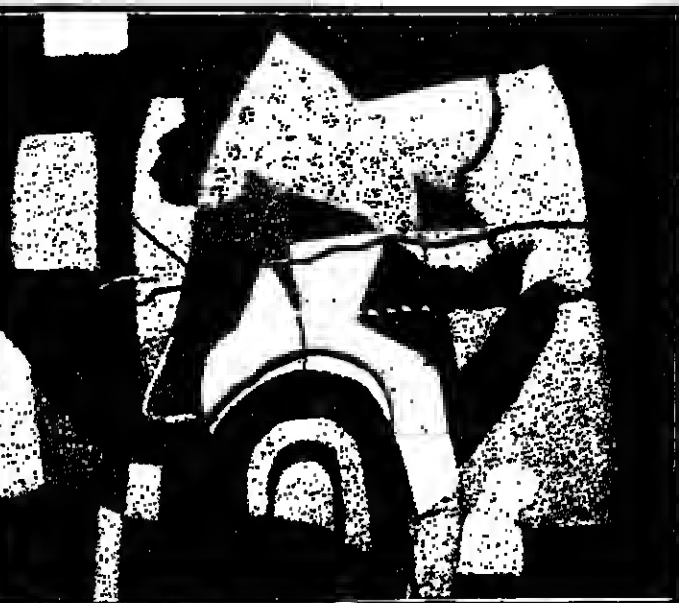
By Najwa Najjar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A wild array of shapes and an infusion of colours greets those coming to see the work of well-known Iraqi artist Dia Al Azzawi currently on display at the Royal Cultural Centre. Azzawi expresses Arabic themes abstractly in his etchings, silkscreens, lithographs and paintings.

Geometric figures characterised by a clarity and brightness of colours on either a dark or white background accentuate all of Azzawi's drawings. Thin and heavy lines are used to connect the figures. "Azzawi has achieved new things with space and colour. Contrast is used in different spaces," commented Mr. Mamoun Thapuan, a fellow artist. The use of bright colours indicates Azzawi's leaning towards the Iraqi school of colour. Mr. Bilal Hamad, an architect told the Jordan Times, that Azzawi's Iraqi style is characterised by the use of bright colours which is typical of most Iraqi painters. The artist also has a tendency towards graphic art.

Arabic themes

Azzawi's incorporation of Arabic calligraphy, folklore symbols and designs in almost all of his works are a manifestation of the artist's needs and experiences. "I am more interested in expressing my needs and experiences in my work. I have reached the conclusion that I want my work to relate to my traditions, my country, my people, my self. What I



Village by Azzawi (1964)

aim for is to produce contemporary paintings, and call them 'Arab. Influencing factors evident in my work are the sumerian scriptures, Arabic miniatures, and Arabic calligraphy. It is not easy to reach a point where I can

noted sculptor, thinks that the artist's work is "decorative with no spirit or energy," while an artist, Mr. Nabil Shadid, said: "Azzawi's work is very tasteful. The colour is very clean, and the Arabic calligraphy gives dynamism and ties up the geometric figures. I feel there is an experienced artist who treats his subjects and themes very diplomatically. I would say that his work is both nice and impressive."

Azzawi was born in Baghdad in 1939. In 1962 he graduated with a degree in archaeology from Baghdad University followed by a degree in Fine Arts in 1964. He has lived in London since 1976. Azzawi's exhibition will continue until Dec. 10.

ART REVIEW

say this is an Arabic painting, but my experiences contribute to this goal," said Azzawi. He feels that the Middle East situation has affected his work in that it makes up part of his experiences.

Two other individuals in the field of art commented about the exhibition. Mr. Samer Tabba'a a

LUCKY NUMBERS IN ALWAHA STORES

RAFFLE OF NOV. 1985

PRIZE	NO.
1- An Alfa Romeo model 1985	022803
2- Sitting room donated by Enso-Strong	141398
3- Oven - Sunny	037226
4- " "	048294
5- Washing Machine-Ba-m	067409
6- " "	085050
7- " "	130984
8- " "	132185
9- " "	130577
10- Stove-Sunny	098636
11- " "	042645
12- " "	031127
13- " "	022139
14- " "	050686
15- Gift certificate/15 JD	093770
16- " "	116345
17- " "	090391
18- " "	017500
19- " "	018417
20- " "	030916
21- " "	119690
22- " "	090370
23- " "	019139
24- " "	136327



The holders of these tickets are invited to receive their prizes within a month as of date



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Look back to meet the future challenge

By Rami G. Khouri

I SPEND a great deal of time these days visiting archaeological sites throughout the country, documenting them for a series of books I am writing on the antiquities of Jordan. At all sites, but particularly those in now relatively isolated areas, I am always struck by the attention that the former inhabitants of the land paid to the collection, storage and conveyance of water.

My suspicion is that in the coming years and decades, water will prove to be one of the most important and difficult problems that we will have to deal with as a country, and there is much that we can learn from those who lived here before us.

The potential vulnerability of Jordan to water shortages was brought home six or seven years ago, when three years of consecutive drought caused severe water shortages throughout the country. I remember when municipal water pumping to households was restricted to just twice or even once a week in 1978 and 1979. The emergency was alleviated when the three years of drought were followed by three years of good rainfall, which was further helped by the subsequent reorganisation of the country's water management by the creation of the national Water Authority.

We are now at a stage in our national development where water supply and demand are in a rather delicate balance. In the next few years, we will be less vulnerable to water shortages because of more strict water management policies, improvements in water collection and conveyance systems, and the new focus on recycling waste water.

ycling waste water.

The new project to pump tens of millions of cubic metres of water a year to the Jordanian plateau from the Jordan Valley will also further put off the day when the large urban centres in the Amman-Zarqa-Irbid region have to worry about shortages of water for domestic, industrial and agricultural use. But the basic dilemma in the longer term remains the same: at present growth rates of water consumption, and given the strictly limited supply of water that we can count on from annual rainfall and natural underground water storage, Jordan may face major water shortages at the turn of the century.

Anticipating this, the nation's planners have devised a long-term strategy that focuses on a combination of tapping new underground water resources, recycling waste water, tapping surface runoff water via the construction of dams, and establishing a national water network that would allow water to be moved from areas of surplus to areas of shortages. For the very long term, in the first decades of the next century, we have even started considering pumping water to Jordan from the Euphrates River in Iraq.

The availability of technology and financial resources makes it possible to envisage and even implement huge projects such as the pumping of water from the Jordan Valley to the highlands, or bringing water from Iraq. But in the long run, even these systems have a limit. For surface water resources will always be limited, while population growth,

industrialisation patterns, domestic consumption growth and the spread of irrigated agriculture show no similar limiting trends.

The long-term answer to our potential water dilemma does not lie only in bringing on stream new sources of water supply, for there will always be a point beyond which new sources of water simply will not be available. And in any case, all the new programmes being implemented or considered ultimately run up against the reality that groundwater resources can never be more than the water that falls every year as rain.

I would suggest that in the long term, our best protection against future water shortages lies in a combination of large-scale water conveyance systems, and small-scale, family- or neighbourhood-oriented systems to trap rain water and conserve it for use throughout the year. This was the rule in this land in antiquity, and we have much to learn (and perhaps emulate) from those who lived in this land hundreds or even thousands of years ago.

The most spectacular example of water harnessing in antiquity is the case of the Nabataean Arabs, whose impressive capital at Petra remains a testament to what can be achieved where there is a combination of technological prowess and political will. The Petra area is riddled with hundreds, if not thousands, of small-scale water catchment, storage and conveyance systems. Virtually all the monuments in the Petra area, whether tombs, houses, public buildings or farmsteads, have small water basins, cisterns or

reservoirs attached to them.

The Nabataeans were masters at hydrological engineering. But more important than their technology was their command of common sense. Like us today, they had to build large-scale water conveyance systems that channelled spring waters into the central Petra basin from outlying regions. The water channels in Siq entrance to Petra from the east are the most commonly appreciated of the Nabataean sophisticated water conveyance systems, though there are several others as well that are less visible to modern visitors. The inhabitants of Petra also relied on water from the springs at Braja, several kilometres to the south of the city, and from other sources to the north and west.

More relevant in my view, however, were the Nabataeans' small-scale water systems, whereby each house or public building trapped the winter rains and stored the water in small cisterns. It is relevant to our national water challenge today that most of the water cisterns in Petra still function, and still fill up naturally every winter. Some of the larger cisterns, such as the one near the entrance to the Siq al Barid area, north of Petra, have been cleared and are being used by the area's inhabitants to supply themselves and their animal herds with precious water throughout the long, dry summer months.

It seems to me that in our contemporary stage of expanding urbanism, we have much to learn from the Nabataean experience. Now is the time to start looking to our future water challenges by looking back to our long history in water management. It would seem appropriate to consider technologies and mechanisms by which individual households throughout Jordan could emulate the small-scale water catchment systems that were applied so successfully by our predecessors.

The thousands of private homes, apartment houses, commercial buildings, factories, schools and other structures that have been constructed in Jordan should all be viewed afresh as potential water catchment facilities. I am sure we have the technology, or at least the human resources and the political/hydrological imperative to develop appropriate technologies. We should be able to devise inexpensive systems by which each building in the country could use its roof surface to trap rainwater and store it next to the building, in ground-level water tanks or underground cisterns. Water could be harnessed locally, stored locally and then used locally, thereby considerably relieving the financial and technological pressures that have compelled us to consider massive water conveyance systems criss-crossing not only the country, but the region.

Certainly, such small-scale hydrological systems might not satisfy our total water needs. But surely, a household that traps a hundred cubic metres of water or more during a good winter would be able to use that water to satisfy its domestic needs for at least half the summer, if not more. We could also look into the integration of

small-scale water catchment technologies with existing capabilities in the field of solar energy. Small solar pumps could be attached to the household water systems to pump the stored water into roof-top tanks. A clever engineer might even figure out a way to use solar energy to purify the rainwater stored in cisterns.

The government has a role to play in launching an effort to seriously explore such an initiative, and then to devise incentives (such as tax rebates, water pricing policies, or support of local industries producing household water catchment systems) to help promote it.

In the current situation, we probably have a tendency to be complacent about water, blessed as we have been by four good winters. The longer term outlook, however, is considerably more serious that we might now think. The government will surely continue to do all within its power to provide Jordanians with their water needs in the future, but even the government is ultimately governed by the quantity of water that falls to earth every year in the form of rain.

The long-term solution will probably prove to be based on individual water consumption patterns, which we are well advised to start addressing now, while our water balance is still in relatively healthy shape.

History indicates that the control of water has always been a decisive factor in the growth, development and security of nation-states that flourished in the land of Jordan in antiquity. Some things never change. And never will.

Battle against accidents

LAST Friday's road tragedy, in which 11 pupils, their school headmaster and driver were killed at once, is another gruesome reminder of our failure to curb rising traffic accidents and their immensely negative impact on our society. The tragic accident happened less than three months after 20 people died wholesale in a similar bus-truck collision near Ruwashed in the south of the country, and this points to the urgency of the situation and to the dire need to tackle it head-on before the number one killer claims more lives needlessly and randomly.

Four hundred and fifty three people were killed and 8,000 injured in road accidents in Jordan in the first 10 months of this year. That is an average of three people dying every two days and 26 injured every day, and we cannot tell how high the casualty figure will be by the end of this year or the year after. But obviously we can make a fair guess that it will be a record in Jordan's history, and unless something is done about it the tragedies caused to Jordanian families and the constant drain on the Kingdom's economy will continue to sap our strength, morale and resources for ever.

It is high time to take a different, more serious look at the traffic situation and to start a series of measures that can reduce the probability of accidents on our roads.

Rather than just calling for a strict enforcement of the law, the authorities concerned have to greatly improve their ways of dealing with offenders and reckless drivers. Most traffic policemen spend the best part of their duty time issuing fines to drivers who commit petty offenses as in parking and taking the wrong turning; as if we employ policemen solely to collect money for the treasury. Rarely is a policeman spotted stopping and cautioning a driver who wrongly overtakes another car or fails to heed a Stop sign. Our traffic policemen are good at setting up radar speed traps, but they never seem interested in educating offensive drivers who are ill-mannered and who do not respect the rights of others, whether pedestrians or fellow drivers.

The list of what the police should do, rather than what they are doing now, is long and exhausting, and this may not be the time or the place to go into it. But the issue of educating and reeducating our drivers is perhaps the most essential need of the moment, and a well-coordinated national programme to devise and implement it should take precedence over everything else in this connection.

The status of our roads is important; so is the driving age; so are the number of cars we import and use on our roads and the state of the vehicle itself; but all of these are subsidiary to the main and most important issue of educating and reeducating both our drivers and policemen.

The battle against road accidents was fought in other countries and largely won by many. We in Jordan cannot hope to wait for imported solutions for this most serious problem because there is not any. We have to fight our own battle, and the sooner we start the better.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: U.S. and racism

A TOTAL of 120 nations voted at the United Nations General Assembly against apartheid and considered it a crime. But 24 countries abstained from voting and the United States alone took a step further by voting against it and encouraging others to follow suit. It is a universal fact that apartheid and racial discrimination is an inhuman and immoral action, and contradicts all principles and values of humanity. It is also known that such a crime has been continually committed against Third World nations, and had led to two world wars. Those countries which came out victorious of the Second World War pledged to help all peoples to realise their aspirations in freedom, but unfortunately these victorious nations continue to support racist regimes in Africa and in occupied Palestine, helping them to deprive the indigenous population of their right to self-determination and to freedom. The United States is perhaps the most notorious country that continues to help racist and dictatorial regimes in Asia, Africa and South America, while continuing to brag about its keenness on safeguarding people's human rights and self-determination.

Al Dustour: No to brotherly disputes

WE ARE pained to see Arab countries involved in disputes with other Arabs and to see a bleeding of Arab resources on futile internal conflicts. As we watch preparations for war along the Libyan-Egyptian borders we bitterly feel the need for peace and reconciliation. Though we realise that it is Libya which has been inciting trouble and provocations with its neighbours and causing trouble for others especially for Egypt, we still believe that everything possible should be done to prevent a military confrontation between Arabs. We are fed up with continued disputes and differences and we should not allow these differences to spill over in the form of conflict that would only help to cause further sapping of our resources and more tragedies. We support Egypt's rights to find means to provide protection for its interests and people, but we also would not like to see conspiracies directed against the Arab nation succeed in their objective.

Sawt Al Shaab: A way out for Lebanon

AFTER 10 years of internal strife and destruction we believe that the future of Lebanon and the Lebanese lies in the ability of the concerned parties to end their conflict and arrive at a settlement. The agreement reached between the heads of the warring factions in Damascus should be honoured and should form a starting point for bringing about reconciliation that would see a final end to armed conflict and civil war. Of course the major share of responsibility in settling the conflict lies with the central government in Beirut but this government cannot handle the task alone especially if the warring groups fail to support endeavours for peace. The Syrians should find a way of helping all these groups to have their rights preserved and respected and that no group should be allowed to have the upper hand over the others. If Syria cannot handle the task by itself other Arab countries should come to the help of their brothers and reach agreement on a final settlement.

Central American wars heat up despite peace efforts

By Bernd Debusmann

Reuters

MEXICO CITY — Fighting in Central America's three insurgent wars is heating up despite international efforts to staunch the bloodshed in the turbulent region.

In Nicaragua, widely considered a potential flashpoint for a war that could engulf the entire area, the United States has been expanding its support for a fast-growing army of right-wing guerrillas fighting the leftist government.

Both sides in the Nicaraguan war say the next 12 months will be decisive and predict fierce battles ahead.

In U.S.-backed El Salvador, chief of staff General Adolfo Blandon says his armed forces have been forced to rethink strategy to counter left-wing guerrilla forces who are striking with renewed ferocity after months of relative quiet.

Last month, El Salvador's army said the rebels had killed 82 troops and wounded 375 — the highest monthly toll this year.

Military experts in Guatemala report that left-wing guerrillas have been using greater firepower, larger units and heavier weapons in recent months in their war against the military government of Oscar Humberto Mejia Victores.

"The guns are speaking louder than words in Central America," said a senior Western diplomat. "At times, you feel that peace meetings like those of the Contadora group are sideshows, theatre of the absurd."

Efforts to work out diplomatic solutions for the troubled region have centered on the Contadora group of Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama.

Formed in January 1983 on the Panamanian island of Contadora, the group has won wide international support but failed to make any visible impact on the men fighting the battles in Central America.

More than 25,000 people are estimated to have died in the region's three wars since the Contadora nations launched their initiative.

The area's militarisation has been dramatic, with a growth in arms and men paralleled by few other areas of the world. From 1981 to 1984, according to figures by the authoritative International Institute for Strategic Studies, regular armed forces in Central America grew from 48,000 to around 172,000.

At the same time, guerrilla armies expanded fivefold and both sides are better armed and better trained than before.

The main obstacle to negotiated solutions, diplomats say, is superpower involvement in Central America.

Since President Reagan took office almost five years ago declaring he would "draw the line" against Communism in Central

America, Washington has viewed the area as another arena of its conflict with the Soviet Union.

In the U.S. analysis, the Soviet Union and Cuba have been building Nicaragua into a bridgehead for international Communism. While the Americans bolstered their friends in the area with military and economic assistance, the Soviets started delivering hardware to the ruling Sandinista National Liberation Front (FSLN) in Nicaragua.

"Regional peace efforts in Central America have no chance unless the big powers want them to succeed," said a Latin American diplomat.

Contadora's impotence was thrown into sharp focus this month during a meeting that was scheduled to prepare the final details of a peace pact acceptable to the five major countries of the area.

As diplomats talked, Salvadorean and Nicaraguan coast guard ships fought a naval battle in the strategic Gulf of Fonseca. In Washington, the Senate approved a bill authorising that \$27 million of U.S. "humanitarian aid" for anti-Nicaraguan rebels could be spent on planes, helicopters and lorries.

"The Contadora group is in its last throes," Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez told reporters at the meeting in Panama City. "Lamentable, this state of agony could lead to Contadora's death."

The group set itself another "final" 30-day deadline — December 22 — to complete the treaty. If this fails, it will abandon its peace-making attempts, according to Panamanian foreign Minister Jorge Abadía.

Some Latin American analysts say the group's credibility has suffered not only by its failure to stop the killing but also by two leading Contadora countries' recent advocacy of brute force instead of negotiations.

On November 6, President Belisario Betancur of Colombia ordered troops into action to end "with blood and fire" a guerrilla takeover of the Palace of Justice in Bogotá. Almost 100 people died, including 11 Supreme Court judges.

The storming of the palace was bitterly criticised in Colombia but prompted wholehearted praise from President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, a country whose foreign policy has traditionally emphasised peaceful solutions.

"Mr. President, I admire your firmness and decisiveness in safeguarding the constitutional order and the institutions of Colombia," he said in a telegram of congratulations to Betancur.

Mexican newspaper commentators noted that Betancur's order and de la Madrid's endorsement of force contrasted starkly with the moderation Mexico and Colombia have counselled in Central America.



Israel builds 1st fighter for its 'children's continued war'

By Masha Hamilton

The Associated Press

LOD, Israel — In a giant hangar within a guarded complex in central Israel, engineers and technicians are working around the clock on a sleek war machine they say will play a key role in defending the next generation of Israelis.

With its delta wings and round, space age cockpit, the first Israeli-designed fighter-bomber is taking shape. A prototype is expected to fly in September 1986.

The project's mission is to maintain Israel's air superiority in the Middle East. The designers also hope the warplane will make Israel more independent of foreign suppliers for such an important weapon.

But the fighter, known as the Lavi, which means "lion" in Hebrew, has been dogged by controversy since a group of test pilots were asked in 1975 to dream up a perfect plane.

Built with U.S. financial backing, the aircraft's cost has been the primary worry for economically troubled Israel.

Israel Aircraft Industries, a

government-owned company which is building the Lavi, projects its development costs at about \$2 billion. U.S. government analysts have been quoted by the Israeli daily Haaretz newspaper as saying the cost could be two to three times that amount.

"We simply don't have that kind of money," said Joseph Alpher, a senior official at Tel Aviv University's Jaffe Centre for Strategic Studies.

"Even if we build the plane, it's hard to see how the Israeli air force could afford to buy it without mortgaging other weapons development projects," he said in an interview.

Israel Aircraft Industries officials said they will sell the plane to the air force for about \$15 million, but U.S. analysts say each fighter will cost \$25 million or more.

Other Israeli officials have complained that by building the plane, Israel has increased its dependency on its superpower ally.

The United States has given \$750 million to the project so far, and important components are U.S.-made, including the Pratt and Whitney engine.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

considered a founding father of Israel's arms industry which has produced the Uzi machinegun and Galil rifle, has argued that the Lavi is important because its development will create an infrastructure to help Israel's expanding high-tech industry.

Other defenders say Israel could not buy a better plane, because the Lavi was designed with Israel's particular problems in mind, and with input from Israeli test pilots.

"This plane is being built for our children. Their lives will depend on it," said a project manager who, in keeping with military regulations surrounding the project, could not be identified by name.

"It has to be perfect, because in Israel we're always at war. We take our production straight to Broadway, with no off-Broadway stage to practise on."

Moshe Blumkin, vice president of the company, said the Lavi will have the most advanced electronic warfare gear on the market.

Its computers will store 900 different pieces of information, survey battlefield, control deception of enemy radar and location and destruction of targets, Blumkin said. "We are changing the way

man communicates with flying machines."

A number of Lavi features are kept secret. Visitors must obtain special clearance to enter the complex where it is being built, and journalists must submit their stories about it to military censorship. (One deletion from this story was ordered.)

But officials at Israel Aircraft Industries say the craft, which will be able to fly at almost twice the speed of sound (Mach 1.85), is tailored for the kinds of missions Israel expects its pilots will perform in the 1990s: Covert border crossings, precision strikes against ground targets and rapid, safe retreats.

Six months ago the first mock-up was completed, and officials say mass production will begin in 1990, when Israel aircraft industries plan to complete dozens of jets.

The Lavi is to replace Israel's aging U.S.-made A-4 Skyhawks, F-4 Phantoms and the Israeli-made Kfir, which were modeled on the French-designed Mirage jets. The Lavi will join U.S.-made F-15s and F-16s as the backbone of the air force.

Because they are Palestinians

Novosti

"FOUR-FIFTHS of Palestinians who received Israeli passports in 1948 were peasants. Now four-fifths of them are hired workers," Vladimir Belyakov writes in Pravda. Less than 20 per cent of them work in industry while the rest are construction workers or farm hands or are employed in the services. All this is a result of the deliberate policy of the Israeli authorities who not only confiscated 80 per cent of the Arab

lands but also saw to it that the available workforce went to the lowest-paid jobs."

"The Palestinians are poorer than Jews. Unemployment among them is more than twice as high as among the Jews. The Zionists have turned the Palestinians, Israel's indigenous population, into strangers in their own land and into the servants of the Jewish majority."

"The Israeli authorities are openly hindering the growth of educational level among the Pal-

estinians," Vladimir Belyakov stresses. "Some 18 per cent of Palestinians in Israel are illiterate with the corresponding figure among the Jews standing at 6.6 per cent. The gap in higher education is still wider. Palestinians account for 15 per cent of Israel's population but only two per cent of them are students."

"Economic discrimination undermines the traditional Palestinian set-up. The number of Palestinian villages has dropped five times

over the years of Israel's existence. They were either abandoned by the impoverished peasants or abolished by the authorities, or became prevailingly Jewish. Forty-five Palestinian municipal councils are in constant need of money."

"The Palestinian minority in Israel is now fighting for survival against the background of pro-fascist elements echoing Meir Kahane, in calling for removal of the Palestinian 'cancerous tumor'." — Pravda

July 1985

Family planning: A U.S. point of view

WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration has consistently opposed abortion as a method of family planning and strongly supported the availability of voluntary family planning services, according to the head of the U.S. bilateral development assistance programme.

Mr. Peter McPherson, administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development (A.I.D.), told participants at an American Enterprise Institute seminar November 25 that governments should not dictate the number of children couples can have. Family planning services should be made available so that people can have the option, if they so desire, to bear fewer children, he said. This was the position taken by the Reagan administration at the International Conference on Population held in Mexico City last year "and it remains our position," he said.

Following is the text of McPherson's statement:

STARTING about 20 years ago, there began to be a growing awareness of the high rates of population growth in many developing countries of the world. Indeed, rates of population growth in many poor countries today are as high as three or four per cent a year. This contrasts with much slower growth rates in developed countries only a few decades ago. The recent and unprecedented growth rates are a consequence of lower mortality without corresponding reductions in fertility. Donor agencies can be proud of the role they have played in significantly improving the standards of health in developing countries.

I am sure that in this room there is a variety of viewpoints on the subject of population growth. Some believe current high rates of growth constitute a global crisis; others are equally convinced that there is no cause for alarm. For some time there has been an active debate surrounding these differences. The question has centered on:

— The relationship between population growth and economic growth; and

— the relationship, if any, between abortion and family planning programmes.

This debate has been characterized by strongly-held and often-polarised convictions. But the debate has usually failed to take into account a most important set of reasons for family planning programme. Specifically, there has been little attention to the interests of families and individuals. This is unfortunate since the availability or lack of family planning services is of enormous consequence to some families and individuals. These family and individual interests fall into three categories:

— the desire of couples to determine the size and spacing of their family;

— mother and child survival;

— reduction of abortion.

The right of the family to choose the number and spacing of their children was strongly reaffirmed by international consensus at the International Conference on Population in Mexico City in 1984. Governments should not dictate the number of children couples can have. However, family planning services should be encouraged so that people really do have the option, if they desire, of fewer children.

Families make decisions in their own interest, based upon their social and economic and religious situation. Change, including urbanisation and lower child mortality, has created a new situation for millions of families throughout the developing world. Once, most families wanted and needed more children to contribute to the family's agricultural production and to ensure that enough children survived to care for their parents in their old age. Fifty per cent or more of the populations of many developing countries are now urban, and there is even a very strong urban trend in Africa. Moreover, many children now live because of improved health services. Accordingly, the world is simply very different for many families, and they need and want fewer children.

Also, many families feel they can do more for each of their children — for example, provide a better education — if they have a smaller family. In many areas of the developing world, couples are having eight or nine or more children. When the financial and emotional resources of these families are divided among the children, the frequent result is that the children are undernourished and there is little money for education and health care for each child. Family planning services would give these couples the opportunity, which many currently do not have, of concentrating the resources of the family on fewer children. We can debate the impact of population growth on economic growth in a country, but there is no question that many families feel they can do more for each child if they have fewer children.

Fewer children are an option

which American families take for granted. I suspect that most of us here are pleased that we have, and our children will have, available the information and services so that we can decide the size and spacing of our own families. We must remember that these services are not available to millions of families in the Third World.

The unfulfilled desire of Third World families to have fewer children is not just Western speculation. Surveys show a large number of women who would like to space births or limit their family size but cannot because no services are available. The percentage of such women is highest where few services are available — it is 67 per cent in Bangladesh, where only 13 per cent of couples use contraceptives; 22 per cent in Costa Rica, where 65 per cent of couples are currently using contraceptives ("Population Reports," September-October 1985, and contraceptive prevalence surveys). A carefully monitored project in Matlab Thana (district), of Bangladesh, demonstrated that when high-quality family planning services were made available to poor villagers on a voluntary basis, contraceptive prevalence increased from 6.9 per cent to 35 per cent.

The health and survival of mothers and children provides a second important reason for family planning. We know that one of the most serious consequences of women having many children in quick succession is that more children and mothers die. Studies of child mortality conducted in 26 countries have confirmed that a child born within two years of an earlier birth is twice as likely to die as a child born after an interval of two or more years. Also, the older child is more likely to die if there is another child born within two years (Maine and McNamara, "Birth Spacing and Child Survival"). It is estimated that spacing all births at least two years apart would reduce the deaths of children under four years by 16 per cent (Huffman in "Mothers and Children," March-April 1984).

Maternal health is also affected by the number and spacing of children and the age of the mother. As many as 200,000 maternal deaths per year are attributed to too many pregnancies too early or too late in the reproductive period ("Population Reports," May-June 1984).

A third reason for family planning is the reduction of abortion. When couples want fewer children and family planning services are not accessible, abortion is often resorted to. This is true whether or not it is legal. It is estimated that more than 25 million abortions occur in developing countries each year, compared with 113 million births ("Population Reports," July 1980). Evidence from some Latin American and Asian countries indicates that as many as one out of three women have had an abortion. Many of these abortions would be prevented if family planning services were available. The Mexican Social Security Administration estimates that it has prevented 360,000 abortions since family planning services began in 1972 (Norman, IUSSP Conference, 1985). In Chile, the number of women seeking help in hospitals for complications from illegal abortions declined substantially after 1965, when modern family planning services began to become widely available (Maine "Family Planning: Its Impact on the Health of Women and Children.")

Based solely on these three family and individual needs — the families' desire to determine the number and spacing of children; mother and child survival; reduction of abortion — I believe assistance to family planning programme is necessary.

Next, I would like to discuss the relationship between economic growth and population growth. This relationship has been the centre of recent controversy. The debate has tended to be characterized by two extremes.

Some have argued that rapid population growth rates are a worldwide crisis and a primary reason why more progress has not been made in the Third World. The crisis perception of population growth has been tempered in the minds of some — though not all — because of declining birth rates in several countries and the recognition that human resources and technological innovation provide a key response to the need of a growing population.

Unfortunately, a careful study of the data does not fully clarify the relationship between population growth and economic growth. For one thing, it is difficult to separate out population growth rates from all other factors affecting economic growth. Nevertheless, it appears that a number of countries with sustained economic growth in recent decades also had widespread and effective family planning services and reduced population growth rates. The Pacific Rim countries — for instance, Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, Hong Kong and others — come to mind. It is not clear how much of the population growth reductions in these countries came because of



In a Haiti slum, a health worker calls to give advice on child care and family planning (File photo)

economic growth or, on the other hand, what contribution the reduced population growth rates made to economic growth. In any case, in the Pacific Rim countries the availability of family planning services, moderate population growth rates and sustained economic growth tend to go hand in hand. In contrast, there are a number of countries where there are high population growth rates and slow economic growth. The situation in Africa is especially noteworthy. In many countries, there has been a negative per capita growth for a sustained period and very high population growth rates.

Let me review the arguments of those who say that very high population growth rates reduce economic growth in some countries. They argue that a poor nation with too high a population growth rate cannot make the investment in education, health and so forth because of the ever-growing wave of new children. Some also argue that population growth rates can have a negative impact on the degradation of the land.

Yes, sound economic policies and various development efforts are critical to economic growth. However, as suggested above, family planning has been part of successful packages in some key countries in recent years. Based upon that, I feel that sound economic and population policies are mutually supportive components of a country's plans for economic growth.

The other side contends that nations, over time, are able to adjust to the pressures of more people; indeed, that the pressure may be a very important stimulus to innovation and growth. It seems to me that those taking the position that nations can adjust must assume a degree of political flexibility. They may underestimate, for example, the tribal conflicts, the urban exploitation of a rural majority of many African countries, famines, etc. Also those who assume that all nations can adjust may not be realistic in judging the ability of fairly primitive societies to obtain technological innovation.

In short, the situation may be so severe that reasonable adjustments will not occur in a timely fashion and countries just sink deeper into poverty.

Let's talk about economic development for a moment. I think that some components are clearly needed to obtain economic growth — components about which there is a growing consensus.

The first component is sound, market-oriented economic policies, without which the economic and social aspirations of countries cannot be achieved.

There also are several other components which countries usually need to meet to achieve sustained growth. Among the most important is human resource development — for example, education and training. Nobel Prize winner, Dr. Theodore Schultz has well documented the role of human resources in economic growth. Another critical component is technology. Without the "Green Revolution" technology, India might well still have terrible famines rather than being more or less self-sufficient in grain production. It is no coincidence that Africa, with its low economic growth, has a very high rate of illiteracy and needs a "Green Revolution" of its own.

Yes, sound economic policies and various development efforts are criticality to economic growth. However, as suggested above, family planning has been part of successful packages in some key countries in recent years. Based upon that, I feel that sound economic and population policies are mutually supportive components of a country's plans for economic growth.

To combat pollution, Jordan moves towards a 'Clear Air Act'

By Kerstin Wichmann
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "The Amman area is the most seriously affected by air pollution in the whole of Jordan," Mr. Ayman Al-Hassan, head of a three-year air pollution project at the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

The Industrial Chemistry Department of the RSS started the project six months ago. The department is entrusted with supplying the scientific basis for a "Clear Air Act" which aims to improve the present air quality in Jordan, particularly in the Amman area.

In cooperation with the Canadian International Development Research Centre (IDRC), which is supporting the \$789,000 programme with a grant of \$500,000 and providing experts, the RSS intends to establish new air quality standards for Jordan.

Mr. Al-Hassan explained that due to rapid industrialization, motorization and expanding population growth over the past ten years, the environment has suffered a great deal from the disproportionate concentration in Amman. Mainly traffic exhaust and industrial emissions add to the noxious smog which can affect humans, livestock and plants, he continued.

Referring to the preparatory study of the RSS project, he said that 85 per cent of the total number of large and 71 per cent of smaller industrial establishments are located in the Amman area, 83 per cent of all vehicles registered

in Jordan are found in Amman and 43 per cent of the total Jordanian population lives in the capital.

So far industry, partially situated in residential areas, is not legally controlled or regulated and for that reason as the RSS's study says, refuse is simply burned in the open air without consideration of sanitary dangers.

Pollution from traffic

The second main source of air pollution is traffic. "One car for every seventh inhabitant of Amman is an extraordinarily high ratio compared to statistics for other developing countries," Mr. Al-Hassan explained, adding that former city planners did not consider today's masses of motor vehicles which create a dense traffic flow 11 hours a day. Also, Amman's topography aggravates the pollution problem by trapping pollutants due to restricted ventilation, mainly in the downtown area. Additionally, technical aspects have to be considered. Referring to the preparatory study of the project, Mr. Al-Hassan said that many vehicles are poorly maintained leading to an increase in fuel consumption which goes hand in hand with an increase in toxic emissions.

Following a similar RSS environmental project which contributed to the adoption of a "Clear Water Act" in 1982 and which contained water quality standards for industrial wastewater, the air pollution programme started at the beginning of this year.

Mr. Al-Hassan said that an experimental study has been completed by collecting background information relevant to the air pollution problem in Amman and corroborating the assumption that sulphur is the main pollutant among a great number of toxic substances. But due to a lack of sophisticated equipment, it was impractical to consider the data as fully representative. More accurate results are expected from the current programme.

Stations, mobile unit

Mr. Al-Hassan said that three fixed measuring stations, supplied with computer-controlled equipment, have been set up in downtown Amman, Mahatta and Marka in order to monitor air quality by sampling air and dust. Also, the idea for a mobile air pollution unit has been realized. "The advantages of mobility are obvious," he explained, "and a specially equipped van is going to guarantee an evaluation of pollution over a large geographical area." In December both the fixed and mobile stations are expected to start their monitoring.

A further part of the programme, Mr. Al-Hassan continued, is the distribution of questionnaires to industrial establishments in order to accomplish an emission inventory. Questions about working conditions and amounts and types of emission are to be answered, and the questionnaires will be used to improve present circumstances and to help establish a healthier atmosphere for personnel working in industrial concerns. After two years of measuring, the results

will be incorporated in a mathematical model, utilising all the known or assumed information into a meaningful pollution forecast. Hence, emergency measures such as reducing or stopping industrial emission by law or closing down certain areas for traffic could be enacted if necessary.

At the end of the project, a report is to be prepared gathering all the information and measurements. Furthermore, recommendations concerning the future course of action and the need for air pollution prevention and control programmes are to be taken into consideration. On this scientific foundation the government is expected to enact a "Clear Air Act" Mr. Al-Hassan said.

International workshop

But the RSS's project is not only of national importance. Mr. Al-Hassan added. An international workshop is to be convened in Amman to be attended by participants from developing countries which are facing similar air pollution problems as Jordan.

Guidelines, outlining the project's methodology and development and suggesting practical methods of air monitoring and environmental prevention, are to be issued and Mr. Al-Hassan hopes it will become a model to be adopted by participating nations. The workshop will also be a forum to establish cooperative programmes with existing international networks and relevant institutions. Mr. Al-Hassan concluded.

A year later, Bhopal is a synonym for chemical disaster

By Victoria Graham
The Associated Press

BHOPAL, India — A year later, Bhopal is a synonym for industrial disaster, apocalyptic in its sweep, and horror, striking thousands in their sleep, blighting leaves on the trees, animals in the field, children in the womb.

Thousands have been left respiratory cripples without hope of a normal life by the cloud of toxic fumes that spewed from tank No. 610 at the Union Carbide plant here on Dec. 3, 1984.

A question mark hangs over infants and children who inhaled the lung-searing fumes.

The extent of it will not be known for years or generations. Even the death toll remains inconclusive.

The Indian government says it has verified 1,754 fatalities. But it does not dispute the estimates of doctors and press accounts that 2,000 to 2,500 people died. One reason for the inconclusiveness is that the toxic fumes struck the poor in an apron of slums around the plant and sometimes three or more bodies were cremated or buried in a single grave.

More than 300,000 were affected in varying ways.

But doctors and officials now say the immediate medical situation and relief efforts are improving and the prognosis is fair. No gas-related deaths are being reported recently and many victims have recovered. The fear of deformed and dying "gas babies" was unfounded, they say.

"The medical picture is definitely better and improving," said Dr. N.R. Bhandari, superintendent of main Hamidia Hospital and coordinator of numerous surveys. He is among those who believe as many as 2,500 people died and he said 4,000 to 5,000 patients suffered massive, permanent lung damage, while 5,000 to 10,000 have less severe respiratory problems.

"But this was like Hiroshima, nothing like it ever happened," he said in an interview. "So we hope for the best and cross our fingers, but we cannot predict what will come next or the impact on growing children and the next generation."

Many slum dwellers and activists dispute those assessments and protesters allege that the Indian government and the U.S.-based Union Carbide Corp. are covering up the extent of the catastrophe while they devise an out-of-court settlement.

About 2,000 people line up daily at Hamidia Hospital alone for treatment and doctors' certificates. They want money, food, medicine, jobs and an eventual settlement from Union Carbide.

Many claim shortness of breath, eye irritations, impaired vision, exhaustion, stomach disorders, aches and pains. They say they suffer psychological symptoms of anxiety, panic, helplessness, helplessness and a constant fear of death.

The lines now are longer and more desperate because the government requires new documents for everyone seeking a cash settlement. Precious yellow "gas vic-

tim" cards are their only tickets to the money. Many are able-bodied pretenders and nonresidents, but all of them appear poor and needy.

No compensation has been paid yet by Union Carbide since India rejected its initial offer of a 230-million-U.S.-dollar out-of-court settlement.

But the "corporation" agreed, under an arrangement approved Nov. 26 by a federal district court in New York City, to distribute \$5 million to the victims. The corporation will give the money to the American Red Cross which will turn it over to the Indian Red Cross for distribution.

On Jan. 3 a U.S. judge will decide whether more than 90 lawsuits against Union Carbide can be tried in the United States. About 2,700 suits are pending against the corporation in India.

Although this central Indian City of 900,000 has become a living laboratory for scientific study of the after effects, crucial questions remain since 40 tons of what Union Carbide says was methyl isocyanate (MIC), used to make pesticides, gushed into the night air.

How did the leak occur? Was it deliberate, as Union Carbide maintains, or negligence? Was the toxic gas inside MIC as Union Carbide insists? Was it hydrogen cyanide or both, as many Indian scientists maintain? Whatever the poison, what is the antidote?

Today Union Carbide's gates are locked. Protesters have erected effigies of executives and scrawled "Killer Carbide" on the walls.

Many slum dwellers at the plant's doorstep claim they never knew the factory manufactured poison; they say they thought medicine was being made. They claim no one told them that a wet towel placed over the face could prevent many MIC deaths and injuries.

Just across Chola Road, the people of the Jaiprakash Nagar slum move listlessly, the dreary rhythms of poverty broken by coughs they claim have become chronic because of gas inhalation. Social workers call on them, and the slum dwellers make routine but often futile trips to see doctors.

Kasturi Bai slumps in a shed where she sells betel nuts and cigarettes. She drops medicine into her eyes and mourns seven people: her husband, two sons, four grandchildren. All of them were choked by gas as they slept in their squalid mud and wattle hut, No. 561. They collapsed as they ran from the onrushing clouds.

The government paid 10,000 rupees (\$833) for each fatality and slowly is paying 1,500 rupees (\$250) to at least 31,000 of the very poorest families. The relief bill is 450 million rupees (\$37.5 million), mostly for food.

The scenes from last December still are vivid. Bodies were stacked like cordwood for mass cremation. Blasted livestock carcasses were removed with cranes. Foliage turned yellow and shriveled. For several days the skies churned with



Dead and victims of the Bhopal gas-leak disaster and their government's U.S. lawyers

smoke from funeral pyres and more than 100,000 people died, stampeding out of Bhopal.

Today the air is clear in this fertile, terraced city of mosques and lakes. Pumpkin vines again blossom in slums and residents have bought new green parrots to replace their dead pets.

But thousands of people cannot breathe deeply. Manual labourers can barely weave hawks. Children wake up screaming from their nightmares. Women still mourn their abortions and miscarriages after the gas leak.

A Union Carbide vice president, Jackson Browning, stated in October that the company has virtually ruled out anything but a "deliberate act" as the cause of the runaway chemical reaction. Indian investigators dispute that claim, but they say they still don't know because their probe is incomplete.

While survivors clamour for aid, the government cannot give away about \$30,000 in compensation for 350 of the unidentified dead, known only by numbered cards at their necks.

GROWTH OF WORLD POPULATION

Demographic trends confirm the rapid increase recently noted in Arab populations. An expected, black Africans (19 nations) dominate the list of 50 projected to grow by more than 2.0 percent to the turn of the century. But eight of the 50 (and six of the top 11) are Arab.

Total numbers are economically more alarming, however. Libya's 4.1 percent increase will add only 4 million to the world's population while India's 1.8 percent growth will add 261 million.

ANNUAL GROWTH OF POPULATION (PERCENT) 1980-2000(*)	
Libya	4.1
Kenya	3.9
Tanzania	3.8
U.A.R.	3.7
Uganda	3.6
Senegal	3.5
Sierra Leone	3.4
Malawi	3.3
Yemen	3.2
Algeria	3.1
Chad	3.0
Guinea	2.9
Equatorial Guinea	2.8
Madagascar	2.7
Yemen	2.6
Yemen	2.5
Yemen	2.4
Yemen	2.3
Yemen	2.2
Yemen	2.1
Yemen	2.0
Yemen	1.9
Yemen	1.8
Yemen	1.7
Yemen	1.6
Yemen	1.5
Yemen	1.4
Yemen	1.3
Yemen	1.2
Yemen	1.1
Yemen	1.0
Yemen	0.9
Yemen	0.8
Yemen	0.7
Yemen	0.6
Yemen	0.5
Yemen	0.4
Yemen	0.3
Yemen	0.2
Yemen	0.1
Yemen	0.0

(*) Selected from 120 countries reached in 1980. Source: World Bank. © Copyright News Features, Luxembourg.

McEnroe rallies to wear down Leconte

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Second seeded John McEnroe of the United States pulled off a great escape in the fourth round of the \$1.5 million Australian Open Tennis Championships at Kooyong Monday, rallying from the brink of defeat to down Frenchman Henri Leconte.

McEnroe, aiming to win the event for the first time, came from two sets to one down and 1-5 in the fourth set tiebreaker to win 5-7, 7-6, 3-6, 7-6, 6-1.

The 26-year-old left-hander reeled off six straight points in the fourth set tiebreaker and then rattled through the deciding set as the 22-year-old Leconte's confidence evaporated.

McEnroe's epic win lasted 3 hours 15 minutes before a packed crowd on an outside court.

He also was given a code violation for an audible obscenity during the match and faces the prospect of his second fine for that offense in four days.

He was fined \$1,250 for a similar offense earlier in the tournament — a fine that means he

will have to serve a 21-day suspension at the conclusion of the event.

Yugoslav Slobodan Zivojinovic clinched a quarterfinal spot against McEnroe with a 2-6, 6-4, 6-4 win over eighth-seeded Tim Mayotte of the United States.

Two-time champion Johan Kriek of the United States also advanced on a day in which rain meant play started three hours late.

Kriek scored a quickfire 6-3, 6-4, 6-3 fourth-round triumph over unseeded American Jay Lapidus.

Kriek, ranked 10th in the world and winner at Kooyong in 1981 and 1982, simply had too many shots in his armory for left-hander Lapidus.

McEnroe was stunned after being pushed so hard by Leconte. "It was a crazy match," he said afterward.

"I just said to myself 'hang in there and hope for a chance'."

"I think I made more use of the chances I got than he did."

McEnroe said that Leconte "got down" in the fifth set after losing the tiebreaker in the fourth and he was able to take advantage of it.

Leconte was pleased with the way he played but said it was very disappointing to drop the tiebreaker.

"I lost a little bit in my mind when I was 5-1 up in the tiebreaker," Leconte said.

"After losing the fourth set, though, I was tired physically."

Kriek appears headed for a showdown with defending champion Mats Wilander of Sweden in the quarterfinals.

Carrot and stick work for Iraq

By Tod Robberson
Reuters

BAGHDAD — Iraq's soccer team, helped by an infusion of Brazilian coaching, have satisfied a national obsession by reaching the World Cup Finals in Mexico.

After the humiliation of being ousted from the 1984 Olympic soccer tournament in the first round, Iraq set about an expensive crash programme for just one goal — Mexico 1986.

It had backing all the way from the top. From Iraq's President Saddam Hussein on down. His eldest son Uday was the driving force as chairman of the Iraqi Football Federation.

The quest culminated in a 3-1 victory over Syria on Friday, after a goalless first leg, on book the 23rd of 24 places in the World Cup finals.

Long favoured by Arab sports pundits as the best team in the Middle East, the Iraqis nevertheless found it a long, hard road to Mexico and had their setbacks along the way.

Their quick exit from the Olympics last year was a shock. They

lost to Yugoslavia had Cameroon and could manage only a 1-1 draw with Canada. Heads had to roll.

Team coach Ammu Baba was sacked and Iraq pulled out of the Asian soccer finals. A major shake-up of the team began.

In February this year Iraq scrapped its entire league programme less than halfway through the season so it could concentrate on Mexico.

The revamping showed quick results under new coach Abdul Razzak Bakr as Iraq triumphed in the Pan-Arab Games.

Afterwards the squad dropped the British style of play favoured by both Bakr and his predecessor.

Four Brazilian coaches, led by manager Jorge Vieira, were hired for \$25,000 a month each for the three months run-up to the final qualifying legs against Syria.

Playing and training conditions at home were far from favourable because of Iraq's five-year-long war with Iran. But some sports pundits reckon it helped toughen the team, especially playing in front of unfriendly crowds.

Iraq could not hold a single qualifying game on home-turf as FIFA, soccer's international governing body, ruled that no matches could be played inside a war zone.

Not only was Iraq deprived of home advantage, it was also virtually denied the support of fervent fans. Tight government controls on travel by Iraqi nationals outside the country prevented them attending away games.

Fewer than 40 Iraqis were on hand, including the team, for the first leg against Syria in Damascus. About 1,750 fans were allowed to go to Taif in Saudi Arabia for the second game.

Iraq officials believe their side is the first to reach the World Cup Finals without playing at home. Iraq rely heavily on three players — goalkeeper Ra'ad Hammoudi and strikers Ahmad Radi and Hussein Saeed.

A straw poll of coaches at the Pan-Arab Games rated Hammoudi the best goalkeeper in the Arab World. The only shot the Syrians got past him in 180 minutes of football was from the penalty spot.

The Iraqis celebrated with a bang — literally. Jubilant fans poured on to the streets of Baghdad after watching the game live on television and fired thousands of bullets into the air. Tracer bullets lit up the evening sky.

Soccer is the nation's number one sport and is played with a passion, in peace or war.

Children play football from an early age, kicking a ball around on dirt fields under a harsh sun. Last March in the Southern port of Basra, 20 kilometres from the front, youngsters resumed their game less than an hour after Iranian artillery shelled their neighbourhood.

An avid soccer fan, President Hussein is known to have rewarded each member of the national team with a house and a car for reaching the World Cup Finals.

One source close to the side says they receive hefty allowances exceeding the pay of many top government officials.

The national sports daily Al-Ba'ath Al-Riyadhi, owned by Uday Hussein, had its own blunt way of motivating the team.

In an editorial on the eve of the match, it warned the side it bore the responsibility "for the nerves of the people."

"In case of loss, God forbid," the paper said, "the people will not stand idle but will pelt those who disappoint their hopes with tomatoes and empty bottles."

U.S. Football Report

NEW YORK (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings played less than eight minutes of decent football Sunday. It was enough.

Trailing the Eagles 23-9 at Philadelphia, the Vikings stormed back for four touchdowns, including three scoring passes by quarterback Wade Wilson, for a 28-23 National Football League triumph over the Eagles. The Vikings, particularly QBs Wilson and Steve Bono, had been totally ineffective until the comeback was triggered by a pair of fumble recoveries. Minnesota gained only 67 yards rushing and was under 100 passing until the fourth-period eruption.

Minnesota, which had lost three straight, drove 58 yards on seven plays, with Wilson hitting Allen Rice for a 7-yard score, making it 23-7. The Vikings cut it to 23-14 with 6:01 left when cornerback Willie Tait picked up a Ron Jaworski fumble and raced 65 yards for a touchdown.

Tight end John Spagnola then fumbled at his 36 and Joey Browner recovered. On third down, Wilson, who earlier was benched in favour of Bono, threw 36 yards to Anthony Carter for the Vikings' third touchdown in 4:29 to make it 23-21 with 3:58 remaining.

Browns 35, Giants 33: Gary Danielson led the Browns on drives of 65 yards and 80 yards in the final quarter at Giants Stadium. Clarence Weathers caught a 25-yard pass from Danielson to cap the first march. Earnest Byner swept nine yards for the winning touchdown with 1:52 to go.

Browns 31, Steelers 23: Host Pittsburgh had taken a 23-17 lead on Mike Merriweather's 35-yard interception return touchdown with 5:02 to play. But John Elway hit Steve Watson for 19 yards. Steve Sewell for six and Clarence Kay 27 on consecutive downs on a 58-yard drive ended by Sewell's 2-yard run with 1:45 to play.

Patriots 38, Colts 31: Quarterback Tony Eason passed for 293 yards and three touchdowns. Eason hit seven straight passes at one point, including a 25-yard touchdown to Stanley Morgan early in the fourth quarter and a 44-yard completion to Tony Collins.

Saints 29, Rams 3: Wade Phillips, who replaced his father Bum as Saints coach last week when Bum resigned, saw Morten Andersen connect on five field goals and the New Orleans' defence shut down Los Angeles.

Packers 21, Bucs 00: Packers' JB Lynn Dickey said he couldn't worry about the freezing weather, winds gusting to 64 kph and ankle-deep snow. While the Bucs couldn't handle the weather — they managed 65 total yards — the Packers had 512 yards of offense.

Bengals 45, Oilers 27: At Cincinnati, fullback Larry Kinnebrew powered for three first-half touchdowns and Boomer Esiason passed for three more scores as the Bengals' offence went wild.

Raiders 34, Falcons 24: Marcus Allen grabbed the league rushing lead with a 156-yard effort and Marc Wilson threw three touchdown passes. The visiting Raiders trailed 17-13 at halftime, but Allen scored the go-ahead touchdown on a 4-yard pass from Wilson in the third quarter.

49ers 35, Redskins 8: The defending Super Bowl Champions got off quickly as Carl Monroe returned the opening kickoff 95 yards for a score. The 49ers, who moved within a game of the stumbling Rams in the NFC West, turned Washington turnovers into three more touchdowns.

Chargers 40, Bills 7: Rookie cornerback John Hendy intercepted two passes, returning one 75 yards for a touchdown, for host San Diego. The Chargers defence, rated last in the NFL entering the game, paved the way for 17 points by intercepting Buffalo quarterback Bruce Mathison three times in the first half.

Seahawks 24, Chiefs 6: Despite nursing a shoulder bruise, Dave Krieg passed for two touchdowns — to tight end Dan Ross for 11 yards and Steve Largent for 17 yards. The Seahawks' other touchdown came on a 5-yard run by Curt Warner in the second quarter.

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1. Last date for receiving copy of tender is 21.12.1985.
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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Monday.

One sterling	1.4985/95	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3854/59	Canadian dollars
	2.5025/40	West German marks
	2.8125/40	Dutch guilders
	2.0760/75	Swiss francs
	50.77/82	Belgian francs
	7.6300/50	French francs
	1702/1703	Italian lire
	202.85/95	Japanese yen
	7.6300/400	Swedish crowns
	7.5650/750	Norwegian crowns
	9.1000/1100	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	323.70/324.20	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Stocks extended midsession declines to close sharply lower on the day, after initial profit-taking accelerated, dealers said. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 was 17.7 down at 1421.4 while the FT 30 was 15.7 lower at 1127.2.

Dealers noted a contributory factor to the decline was the market's assimilation and discounting of recent bid speculation which had been supporting prices in recent weeks.

ICI ended 6p off at 711. Allied-Lyons lost 13p at 288 and B.P. 7p was lower at 563. Government bonds firmed around 1/2 point, reflecting sterling's earlier rise above \$1.50, dealers said. Gold shares were easier and North Americans mixed.

Distillers closed at 2p lower at 508 after a high of 518 following a £1.86 billion offer from Argyl group which the company later rejected as inadequate. Argyl ended 3p up at 338 after 345. Imperial group was 4p down at 241 after disclosing five Imperial for four United Biscuit merger terms. United finished 4p off at 274 after rising to 293 on the announcement.

Reed International met cheap buying at the close to end 9p down at 702 after a low of 699 following its announcement it was not to proceed with its bid for Blundell-Permaglaze subject to formal posting of the bid from Akzo. Blundell closed 3p down at 195. Polly Peck ended 8p lower at 175 after full-year results.

Anglican Church assails British economic policies

LONDON (R) — The British government and the Church of England headed into a major clash Monday over a church report charging that many of the government's economic policies were dogmatic, inflexible and unjust.

The 400-page report on urban conditions called for higher government spending in inner city areas and a reexamination of mortgage tax relief which it alleges the Conservative government is using to help home owners at the cost of the less privileged.

Written by a commission that toured the country for two years, the report quotes approvingly from a submission made to it: "The exclusion of the poor is pervasive and not accidental." Canterbury Archbishop Robert Runcie was expected to give the document his personal backing when it is formally released at a news conference Tuesday.

Archbishop Runcie stepped into the political arena last year during a 12-month miners' strike, criticising Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's economic policies as harming national unity.

Advance copies of the new church report were sent to ministers as a courtesy and an unnamed minister was quoted as calling the document "pure Marxist theology."

Environment Secretary Kenneth Baker said the report was disappointing and suggested the recommendations were out of date.

"We are united in the view that the costs of present policies, with the continuing growth of unemployment, are unacceptable," the church commission says.

It says it feels compelled to question whether "a dogmatic and inflexible" approach is appropriate. The document also says too much stress is being placed on individualism and not enough on collective responsibility.

Since coming to power in 1979, Mrs. Thatcher has insisted that previous Labour government policies crippled the country by restricting individual initiative.

The church report called for a reappraisal of mortgage tax relief as a means of achieving this. "It is unjust," it said, "to tell those in bad housing that we cannot afford to do anything for them, that there is no money available to provide them with a home, and at the same time to give subsidies to those on the highest income."

Worst business crisis hits Singapore, Malaysia

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore reeled under its worst business crisis Monday, with all trading in stocks halted here and in neighbouring Malaysia following the virtual collapse of a major industrial group.

The crisis, triggered when Pan-Electric Industries Ltd. was put into receivership with debts of 390 million dollars (\$195 million), could also hit several stockbroking firms, a senior investment analyst told Reuters.

The Association of Banks and the Stock Exchange of Singapore (SES) held emergency meetings as the affair cast further gloom on the island's economy, already forecast to shrink by two per cent this year. No details were immediately available, but stock brokers said the SES was working out a new scheme to strengthen the badly shaken local securities industry while banks sought to minimise losses and tighten credit lines.

"No matter what the next episode in the Pan-Electric crisis brings, Singapore's reputation as a financial capital will already have suffered as a result of this debacle, the gravest in the republic's financial history," the financial daily Business Times said.

The SES and the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE) did not indicate when they would allow trading to resume, but stockbrokers expected the suspension to last up to a week.

"Once you close, there is never a good time to open. Share prices are definitely going to slide. A prolonged closure will worsen market sentiment," a senior bank official said.

But stockbrokers generally welcomed the suspension in both exchanges which they said prevented panic selling and a possible collapse of the stock market.

"Malaysia will not be spared"

The SES and KLSE work closely as most of the shares are quoted in both exchanges.

"Malaysia will not be spared adverse effects of the Pan-Electric affair," a Malaysian stockbroker said.

Pan-Electric, with holdings in shipping, property and electrical manufacturing, has 68 subsidiaries scattered in Hong Kong, Bermuda, Brunei, Malaysia and Britain.

Brokers and bankers in both countries said a number of smaller companies, caught in Pan-Electric's share swap deals, might be forced to close if banks did not bail them out.

Pan-Electric's problems included forward purchases of stocks for 140 million dollars (\$64 million) by some of its subsidiaries.

The SES suspended trading in Pan-Electric and two of its related companies on Nov. 19 and the share index had since plummeted by nearly 70 points to 691.81.

Concern over Pan-Electric's problems spilled into Hong Kong where share price fell sharply Monday with the market index dropping 22 points to 1,694.57.

Stockbrokers said prices were forced lower as Singapore interests sold shares in Hong Kong to raise cash.

Israel adopts \$400 million budget cut

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli government has decided to trim spending by \$400 million next year and will seek ways to cut a further \$200 million in its fight against inflation, officials said Monday.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said the reductions are essential to reduce inflation, which has reached 248 per cent over the past 12 months.

Most of the savings decided at a meeting Sunday are to come from a \$120 million reduction in fuel and basic commodity subsidies.

Defence spending, which accounts for a third of government outlays, is to be reduced by \$100 million.

Mr. Mordechai said he sought to trim defence spending by \$180 million but he was opposed by Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin. The ministers of health, education and welfare also oppose cuts in their budgets.

A finance ministry spokesman said the overall budget for the fiscal year starting in April was estimated at \$21.3 billion. The Bank of Israel announced Sunday that foreign currency reserves increased by \$855 million in November and now total \$3,257 billion.

It was the first time the reserves had passed the \$3 billion mark for several months.

The increase was attributed primarily to receipt of \$12 billion in American aid. The bank said some of the funds were used immediately for debt payment.

Strike stops most industries in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — A strike over pay and union rights shut down most of Bangladesh's industry Monday, union leaders said.

The Bangladesh Workers' Union Federation said most of its 300,000 members in 69 jute mills, and other factories had heeded its call for the stoppage to force the government to introduce new pay scales and restore trade union rights.

Mr. Lutur Rahman, a leader of the federation, told Reuters the government had broken a promise to increase industrial workers' salaries from last July.

Officials at the main port of Chittagong said most dock workers took the day off and 20 ships were left awaiting loading or unloading.

Police guarding industrial plants reported no violence. They said at least half the workers at a jute mill near Dhaka reported for duty and that a sugar mill in the north ran normal shifts.

Some opposition political groups and students supported the strike.

Labour Minister Korhan Ali said Sunday limited trade union activities would be allowed after the South Asian regional cooperation summit here on Dec. 7 and 8.

But federation leaders described the offer as an attempt to fool workers and create disunity.

World Bank team to help revive Kuwaiti economy

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait, which once boasted the world's top per capita income, is seeking World Bank help to revive its debt-ravaged, oil-based economy.

Finance Minister Jassim Mohammad Al Khorafi, in a report made public Sunday, said 10 experts from the World Bank and Kuwaiti specialists will map out this month a plan on the future course of the economy.

The report paints a grim picture of widespread corporate bankruptcy and proposes urgent surgery, at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars in public money, to wind up dozens of crippled companies and help others.

Sheikh Khorafi linked the problems largely to the crash of local stock markets in 1982, leaving debts of \$95 billion.

His plan caps a series of steps taken by the state to combat the crisis, which erupted when postdated cheques used in a speculative forward-trading spree started to bounce. Many holders had used them as collateral to spend on credit.

Sheikh Khorafi, blaming also an "overwhelming reliance on oil" for economic woes, pointed to a need to diversify the economy.

State oil income has more than halved since 1980. Sheikh Khorafi said the World Bank-Kuwaiti team, in a three to four-month study, would focus on how best to steer public spending to the most productive use, and define "sectoral priorities" for development.

A team from one of the World Bank's affiliated agencies visited Kuwait in September for an in-depth review of steps needed, he said.

The central bank in its 1984-85 annual review said growth in the gross domestic product, before accounting for inflation, slumped to 0.15 per cent in 1984.

This meant in real terms the economy shrank by one per cent after growing 2.3 per cent the previous year.

The Khorafi report said measures would be taken to safeguard the banking sector, whose outstanding loans are estimated last month at 4.44 billion dinars (\$15.1 billion) in March.

Two-thirds of this was unsecured debt, he said.

Despite an earlier central bank request for a \$1.73 billion safety net, Sheikh Khorafi said it was not yet possible to say how much hunking may be needed.

Sheikh Khorafi, who took over as finance minister last March, referred the report to Kuwait's parliament for ratification.

He said the central bank had worked out guidelines on how the commercial banks' debts should be handled, but it would take time for them to be put into action.

"As soon as the steps for settlement are completed, they



Jassim Al Khorafi

will be able to specify the needs for financial backing and how this should be used," he said.

Some of the government deposits in local banks, which banking sources estimated at up to \$1.38 billion, had meanwhile been transferred to central bank control for any future support programme, he said.

Sheikh Khorafi said an independent survey of over 100 Kuwaiti and Gulf firms, outside the banking sector and listed on the official and unofficial stock markets, had shown many "no longer have valid reasons to exist."

He proposed that dozens of these companies be liquidated.

Some should be helped to survive through mergers with firms in complementary business, while others needed financial backing to pull through on their own.

Industrial states raise sales, poor countries' trade drops

WASHINGTON (AP) — Trade of poor countries dropped in the first half of the year, while the richer industrial countries increased their exports, according to figures made available Sunday by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The fund takes as a sample 62 countries from Argentina to Zaire that it calls developing countries. Its monthly — IMF Memorandum reports that the dollar value of what they bought fell in 1982, 1983 and 1984, and kept on falling in the first six months of 1985.

Their imports for the six months amounted to \$236.7 billion, compared with \$251.1 billion in the first half of 1984. This is bad news for the United States and other industrial countries, for which less developed countries are among the best markets.

Imports of poor countries were \$1.4 billion more than exports for

the period, while in the previous year there was a surplus of \$10.1 billion.

This deficit makes it harder for poor countries to keep up payments on their debts, expected to come close to a trillion dollars by the end of the year.

They need surpluses for payments to creditor governments and to banks in the United States and elsewhere. Payments are expected to come largely from what is left over after the debtor country uses its earnings from exports to pay for what it buys abroad.

Many individual debtor countries continue to show a surplus on their foreign trade.

Brazil, the biggest of them, sold \$2.1 billion worth of goods last August and bought only \$1.2 billion. But in some countries like Mexico — the second largest debtor — the surplus appears to be shrinking.

In the third quarter of last year, Mexico sold \$2.8 billion worth of goods more than it bought, in the fourth quarter, \$2.6 billion; in the first quarter of 1985, less than \$2.5 billion.

Debtors countries want new loans from banks both to help pay interest on old loans and to make new investments that will create jobs for their large numbers of unemployed and to raise their low living standards.

But new lending by banks has dropped sharply and there has been no action yet on a proposal by U.S. Treasury Secretary James A. Baker for \$20 billion worth of additional bank lending.

For the 19 industrial countries, exports in the third quarter of 1985 — July through September — rose to \$303.1 billion, compared with \$288.1 billion a year before. But the United States showed a drop, to \$50.3 billion

U.S., GCC to discuss trade next month

BAHRAIN (R) — Officials from the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) and the United States will discuss petrochemical exports at a two-day meeting in Riyadh on January 15-16, a GCC official said Monday.

Speaking from the Saudi capital, he said they would discuss the council's wish to secure a share for

Gulf petrochemicals in the U.S. market. Similar talks with Japanese experts might follow, he added.

Saudi Arabia and other Gulf states want free access for their petrochemical products to the industrialised world but this has worried producers in Europe and the United States who see their

own industries suffering as a result.

Several meetings with European Community officials have taken place on the subject, but none has so far resolved a row over duties imposed by the Community on Saudi Arabian products.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, DEC. 3, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you would be wise to consider what you can do to put your special aptitudes across in a more creative style, with the assistance and approval of those who are skilled.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Try to meet the expectations of your mate for a while, and make that person happier. An active day.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You can start an upward trend in all of your affairs today. Invite guests in for the evening. Choose your friends wisely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Contact good friends in all walks of life to join you with profitable interests that appeal to them.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Listen to what a successful person has to suggest to you so that your future can be much brighter.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Bring your finest talents to the forefront so that you can make your life more profitable. Look to a generous friend for assistance.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get ready for happier times ahead and be more optimistic. Make sure you pay your bills on time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be with powerful friends who can be of service to you in business or personal life. Your personal aims are within easy reach.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Try some way of improving civic and credit affairs and make real progress. A bigwig understands your abilities.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study your activities and either add to them or revise them so that you get better results in the future.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A good day to improve your relationship with your mate by giving special thought. Put your finest abilities to work.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be alert to better ways to benefit in various spheres. You can come to a fine understanding with a prominent person.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Discussions with co-workers can bring fine results for the days ahead. Be very cooperative.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be more able than most where studies and activities are concerned; so be sure to give a good education. The personality is great and the nature is full of enthusiasm. The abilities are recognized early, but spiritual training is important early in life.

THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten

ACROSS

1 Author Waugh

3 Let

10 Dishes

14 Broad-topped

15 Lasso

16 Saracen port

17 Marquand novel

20 Frowed

21 Avian breeds

22 Dishes

23 Jet engine

24 Party giver

25 Sports org.

26 Tokyo formerly

28 Sea turtle

34 Architectural curve

36 George Lucas film

40 Zealots

41 Cherub: Pl.

42 Informal dance

43 Piece

44 Less crowded

47 Piece of glass

48 Slow-moving boat

49 Without

52 Horny sponge group

57 Ballet results

60 Equipment

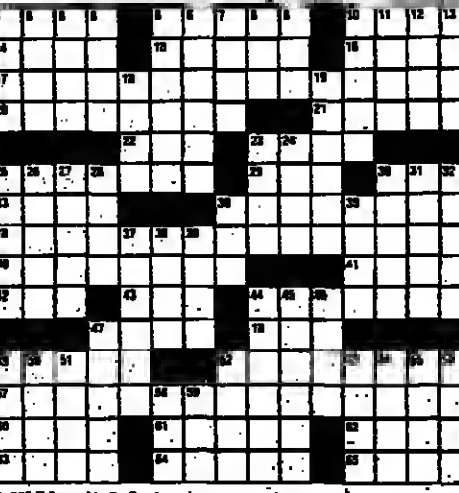
61 Noddy

62 Apartment

63 Wheel support

64 "Johnny!"

65 Mergent



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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DOWN

1 Mountain

2 Sassy

3 Arabian

4 Riffen

5 Sprangoes

6 Carola

7 Region

8 Saccharin, torn

9 Confict

10 Fence openings

11 Musical work

12 Gossip

13 Without

14 Tractable

15 Last

16 Bearish

17 Rapidly

18 View

19 Discontent

20 "— a Night- ingale"

21 Put off going to bed

22 Heavy blow

23 Expressway in Chicago

24 Avoid meeting

25 Willow

26 Suppositions

27 Most mature

28 Sometimes

29 proper

30 Six to an inning

31 Ghetto's creator

32 Scoop

33 Blind as —

34 Norway

35 Large prof.

36 Hides out

37 Petrich of time

38 Bark-covered protuberance

39 Cluster

40 Paris airport

41 Break

42 Concerning

43 "— bin oh Berlin"

44 Nine extract

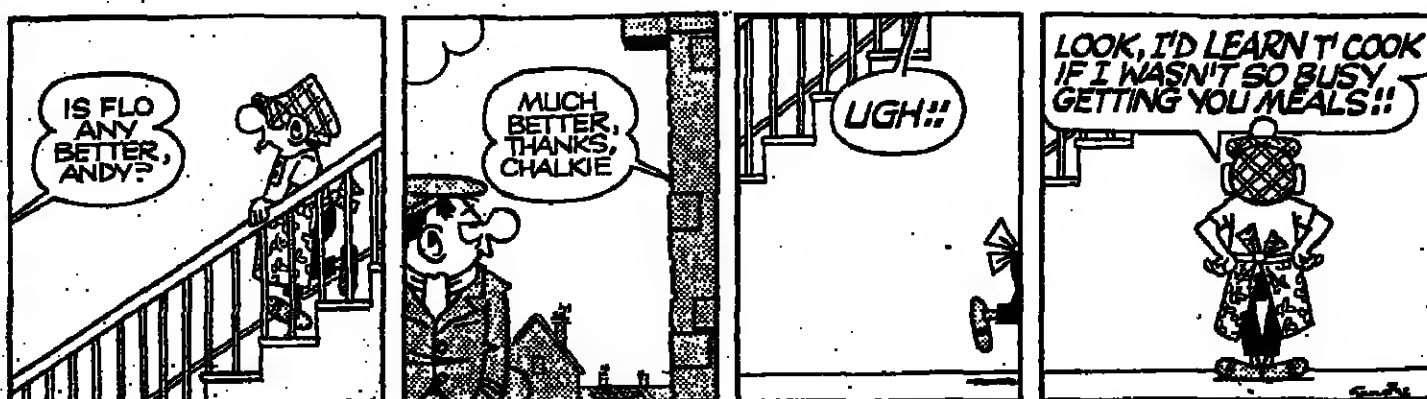
Peanuts



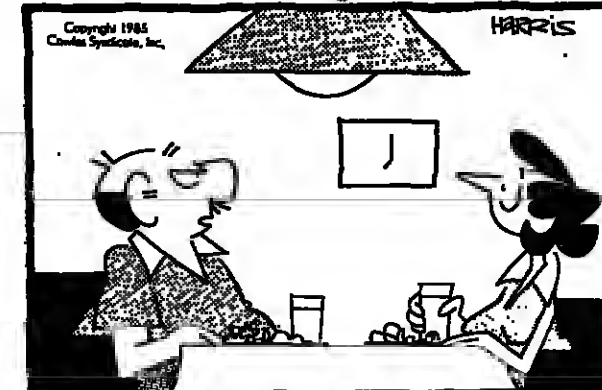
Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF. By Harris



Ver, acquitted in Aquino murder case, resumes job as military chief

Corazon Aquino denounces court verdict

MANILA (Agencies) — Military chief Fabian Ver was acquitted Monday of involvement in the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino and within hours President Ferdinand Marcos reinstated him as chief of staff of the armed forces.

The presidential palace said Gen. Ver, who has been on leave of absence during his trial with 25 men over the 1983 murder, delivered a letter to Mr. Marcos asking that he be restored to his position.

The palace said Mr. Marcos approved the request "for such a period as may be decided by me and on the advice of the senior officers of the armed forces of the Philippines."

It said that at Gen. Ver's recommendation, Mr. Marcos also called a meeting at the palace Tuesday with other service chiefs.

The palace said Gen. Ver had told Mr. Marcos he would bring to his attention "certain security matters of a highly sensitive and extremely urgent nature."

In a unanimous verdict, the three judges said Sen. Aquino was shot by Rolando Galman, described by the military as a Communist agent.

Corazon Aquino, the former senator's 52-year-old widow, denounced the verdict and said her husband was the "victim of the trial." She is being pressed by supporters to stand against President Ferdinand Marcos in presidential elections expected in February.

She told a news conference: "My number one suspect is Marcos."

The court, which normally decides graft cases involving government employees, upheld the military's account of the killing and rejected an inquiry commission report which said there was a military assassination plot.

Sen. Aquino was killed at Manila airport on Aug. 21, 1983 as soldiers escorted him from the plane which brought him home from voluntary exile in the United States. Galman was shot dead seconds later by airport security guards.

The murder plunged the Philippines into its worst political and economic crisis since World War II.

The reading of the 90-page verdict was nationally televised. Hundreds of opposition supporters chanted slogans outside the packed court.

The court dismissed outright the testimony of witnesses which formed the basis of the commission's findings and accepted evidence which the inquiry had rejected.

The defendants, all but one of them soldiers, emerged smiling and waving to friends.

Gen. Ver, fiercely loyal to Mr. Marcos, a distant relative, said: "This decision was expected. There was never any evidence never any proof."

Mrs. Aquino said she was convinced "misdirected elements in the military had a direct hand in the assassination of Ninoy (her husband)." But she said she was not prepared to condemn the entire military establishment.

She appealed for information about the killing from "decent elements" in the armed forces and added: "I still hold Mr. Marcos responsible for the assassination of Ninoy."

The court said all the accused were now free of criminal and civil liability. But it admitted the trial was conducted "under the dark clouds of distrust."

The 26 defendants were also acquitted of charges of involvement in the murder of Galman. The court said the soldiers were doing their duty when they shot him.

The judges rejected evidence by key prosecution witness Rebecca

Juiano, dubbed "the crying lady" who said she saw soldiers shoot Sen. Aquino on the aircraft steps.

Witness offered bribe

Mrs. Juiano said she was offered bribes if she would change her testimony, the San Francisco Examiner reported Sunday.

Rebecca Juiano testified at the trial that ended last month in Manila that she was a passenger on the plane that carried Sen. Aquino to Manila Aug. 21, 1983, after three years of self-imposed exile in the United States, and that saw a soldier shoot him on the plane's stairway.

Ms. Juiano said in an interview Saturday that she was offered two million pesos (\$100,000), a free house in the Philippines and a private plane to fly her anywhere in the world "if she would change her prosecution testimony," the newspaper reported.

"I was scared, really scared," said Ms. Juiano, 33. "I was weighing what to do, calling my sister (in California) three and four times a day."

The Examiner quoted Ms. Juiano as saying a high-ranking U.S. official, whom she identified as Consul General Vernon McAninch, met regularly with her and was aware of the alleged bribe attempt.



Gen. Fabian Ver



Rebecca Juiano

She said McAninch helped her and her brother obtain U.S. visas. The newspaper said she was staying in Sunnyvale, California. Efforts to locate her by phone for further comment Sunday were unsuccessful.

Filipino presidential spokesman Adrian Cristobal said Mr. Marcos had no wish to respond to Mrs. Aquino's "emotional" remarks.

"Mrs. Aquino's statement is obviously meant to discredit the overwhelming judgment of the (trial court) and this tends to degenerate a legal question into a political controversy," Mr. Cristobal said.

Mrs. Aquino spoke at a news conference at a suburban business office shortly after watching the trial proceedings with her children in their home.

"I thought... that if the accused were really all that innocent, they would be jumping with joy and out just standing there not doing anything else at all," she said.

The Aquino family had refused to take part in the trial of Gen. Ver and 25 other men charged with murder.

Asked what she thought about the reinstatement of Gen. Ver as head of the military, Mrs. Aquino said that if Gen. Ver failed to provide adequate security to one man, "heaven really help all of us Filipinos if we have to depend on him to protect us."

New Indo-Pakistan row breaks out

NEW DELHI (R) — India said Monday Pakistan's "lenient" treatment of Canadian Sikhs who beat up three Indian diplomats in Pakistan had shattered efforts to improve relations.

External Affairs Minister Bali Ram Bhagat said the incident was a negative development in normalising relations between the two neighbours, which have fought three wars in the past 38 years.

India has said six Canadian Sikhs on a pilgrimage to one of the religion's shrines near the Pakistani city of Lahore beat up the diplomats, all Hindus, a week ago. The three spent several days in hospital.

Mr. Bhagat told parliament's Lower House the Sikhs were not arrested for 48 hours and were

then immediately released on bail. "The chain of events... leads to the unfortunate conclusion that Pakistan authorities have treated the Canadian Sikh extremists in a lenient manner and seem to be proceeding against them at a leisurely pace," he said.

"All the work done... to build friendship with Pakistan has been shattered by this incident."

Mr. Bhagat's tough statement was the latest sign of growing tension between India and Pakistan.

India's main news agency, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported Sunday that Pakistan was building up troops along the border between the two countries.

There is also a running war of words about whether each nation's nuclear plans are for peaceful purposes.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who has invited Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul-Haq to look at an Indian nuclear plant when he visits this country on Dec. 16, said he would be prepared to visit a Pakistani plant.

Mr. Gandhi told reporters Sunday night that the Indian public should not worry about threats to the country from Pakistan.

"We will give a full guarantee about the security of India. There is no need for fear on that account," Mr. Gandhi said.

Mr. Bhagat told parliament that while India wanted friendship with Pakistan it would not be at the expense of the country's security.

"We have to take all steps to safeguard our security," he said.

Sikh gunmen strike again in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, India (R) — Sikh extremists struck again in India's Punjab state Monday, shooting dead a worker for a right-wing Hindu party as a storm loomed over release of separatist suspects.

Police in Chandigarh, the state capital, told reporters two extremists shot dead Ram Verma, a prominent worker for the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), while he was collecting money from a bank in the central Punjab town of Ludhiana.

The killing brought the casualty toll in extremist attacks over the past 10 days to eight dead and 50 injured.

Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Singh Barnala hit back Monday by suggesting that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi that the recent release of extremist suspects might have contributed to the new offensives.

"I am not happy with the indiscriminate release of persons arrested," Mr. Gandhi told reporters Sunday night. He said the releases might mistakenly indicate the government was going "soft on terrorism."

But Mr. Barnala, head of the moderate Sikh Akali Dal political party, told Reuters no "hard-core" extremists had been released and none of those who launched the latest attacks had been in jail.

Police said about 1,100 of 1,900 suspects arrested since June 1984 when troops stormed the Sikhs' holiest shrine, the Golden Temple at Amritsar, had been released following the Akali Dal's election victory in Punjab two months ago.

In Amritsar, scene of most recent attacks, police chief S.S. Virk said 54 extremists had been released in his district.

"Not one of them has been involved in any attack," he said.

Punjab authorities have put the state under tight security including banning night-time riding of motor cycles for the next two months.

India arrests over 100 prior to Bhopal protests

BHOPAL, India (AP) — More than 100 people were arrested and security was tightened at Union Carbide plants to prevent violence during protests one year after a gas leak killed more than 2,000 people, officials said Monday.

Police Superintendent A.R. Pawar said the preventive arrests were made during a two-day sweep against "anti-social elements" planning to incite violence on the anniversary of the world's worst industrial disaster.

Vijay P. Gokhale, managing director of Union Carbide's Indian subsidiary, said the company had requested extra police security at its 12 plants in India and one in Nepal.

A metal barricade was erected outside the gates of Carbide's Bhopal factory, and hundreds of police and plainclothes detectives guarded the plant.

Slogans painted on the walls of the compound said, "Smash the killer claws of Carbide." "No more Hiroshimas, no more Bhopals, save the world," and "Indian government loves killer Carbide."

A skull with dollar signs for eyes was posted on the main gate. "People are still scared of what is inside the factory," said Sadhna Kamik, a 27-year-old social activist working with gas victims for the past year. "They say Union Carbide should be punished and every nail of this factory dismantled and sold."

"Although it is one year after the gas leak, the government has failed on every front," added Kamik.

nik, a leader of a group called the Poison Gas Episode Struggle Front. "They are in league with Carbide and trying to hide facts."

Social activists have charged that the government and Union Carbide are withholding information on the extent and severity of injuries while trying to reach an out-of-court settlement.

The Madhya Pradesh state government ordered schools and government offices closed Monday and Tuesday as "prayer days" in memory of the slum-dwellers killed by the cloud of toxic gas that escaped from Union Carbide's pesticide plant.

More than 300,000 people were physically affected by the 40 tons of methyl isocyanate that wafted over the shanty towns surrounding the plant late the night of Dec. 2 and early morning of Dec. 3, 1984.

The State Chief Minister, Motilal Vora, was scheduled to distribute the first installment of a 200 rupee (\$16) monthly pension to 2,842 women widowed by the disaster.

Thousands of slum-dwellers and activists planned a torchlight march to the plant's gates late Monday night. On Tuesday, they plan to burn more than 2,000 effigies of Union Carbide Chairman Warren Anderson.

Mr. Vora, the state's top elected official, on Sunday branded Union Carbide as "unscrupulous death dealers" and said it acted with a "disregard for human life unparalleled in human history."

Mugabe in Soviet Union

MOSCOW (R) — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe arrived Monday for his first official visit to the Soviet Union, during which he talks with Kremlin leaders as expected to concentrate on tensions in South Africa.

Mr. Mugabe, heading a delegation of government and ruling ZANU-PF Party officials, was met at Moscow airport by Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and other dignitaries.

Mr. Mugabe's visit received prominence in the Soviet media, reflecting an improvement in relations since Zimbabwe won independence in 1980. The Kremlin favoured Mr. Mugabe's rival Joshua Nkomo during the war against white rule in the former Rhodesia.

The front page of the Communist Party newspaper Pravda carried a biography and photograph of Mr. Mugabe. It said his visit would become "a milestone on the road of promoting friendship and fruitful cooperation" between the two countries.

Diplomats said Mr. Mugabe and Soviet officials were likely to discuss a warning by Pretoria that South African forces would cross into Zimbabwe in pursuit of black guerrillas whom it accuses Mr. Mugabe's government of harboring.

The African National Congress (ANC), the banned black nationalist group, claimed responsibility for land-mine and rocket attacks in South Africa last week but denied its guerrillas had entered the country from Zimbabwe.

Soviet television news Sunday night charged South African authorities with trying to destabilize Zimbabwe by inciting civil strife and sending saboteurs into the country.

During the last 15 months of racial unrest in South Africa, the Soviet Union has called for comprehensive United Nations sanctions against Pretoria, demanded the release from jail of ANC leader Nelson Mandela and condemned U.S.-South African links.

Moscow is a major arms supplier to Angola, a Marxist state bordering South Africa, and last week sent gold-polituro member Geidar Aliev to a congress of the ruling MPLA-Workers' Party.

Mr. Mugabe made a short stopover in Moscow in August on his way home from a visit to China, his main arms supplier in the war against white rule.

Space shuttle mission described as 'flawless'

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The seven astronauts aboard the space shuttle Atlantis planned a televised crew conference to reflect on six days of a flight described as flawless.

"So far it looks like an unqualified success as a mission," National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) spokesman Jim Mizell said Sunday night following a second spacewalk. "It has accomplished everything we set out to do."

In the first six days of the mission, which ends Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. (2130 GMT) when the Atlantis lands at Edwards Air Force Base in California, the astronauts deployed three communications satellites, took two extensive spacewalks to test methods of building space stations, and conducted photographic, pharmacological, chemical and radar tests.

The structures were designed to be assembled without tools through twist-on unions at the joints. Then they simulated the electrical wiring of the structures.

The procedures for assembling the structures, one a 45-foot (15 metre) tower, the other an inverted pyramid of six 12-foot (four metre) beams, were established in a five-hour spacewalk Friday night.

Communications satellites for Australia, Mexico and RCA Corp. were successfully placed in orbits 22,300 miles (35,600 kilometres) above the equator, during the flight.

"It really has to fall into the successful category along with the other experiments on the flights. It has more than met expectations," said George Diller, another NASA spokesman.

NASA decided Sunday to cut one 90-minute orbit from the seven-day flight to prevent the sun from shining into the eyes of the pilot, Marine Lt.-Col. Bryan O'Connor, as he lands the Atlantis in the California desert.



Gang steals \$9m from Brinks in Paris

PARIS (R) — Armed robbers working in two teams have stolen 70 million francs (\$9 million) from Brinks Armoured Transport Company at Colombes, north west of Paris, police said Monday.

A police spokesman said the hold-up teams attacked two Brinks employees separately at their homes on Sunday night about 9:30 p.m., forcing them to drive with the gang to Brinks and open the company safe with their keys.

Other gang members held the wives of the Brinks employees hostage at the homes until the holdup was completed just before dawn, he said. The police spokesman said the gang, armed with rifles, revolvers and bullet-proof vests, also had walkie-talkies so they could remain in contact throughout the operation. The amount stolen was one of the biggest cash hauls from a robbery in France, police said. They said the robbery had been faultlessly executed.

Man rescued after 2 days hanging around

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A 35-year-old transient who dangled on a rope for two days from an air vent in a downtown bank was rescued by police and firefighters, authorities said. Richard Batista, rescued Sunday from his perch 25 feet (seven metres) above the floor, said he had been trapped since Friday evening, when a rope broke as he was lowering himself through an air vent into the Sumitomo Bank building. "He fell about 30 feet (nine metres), and he got caught under the waist. Couldn't go up and couldn't go down," said police Lt. Jack Tipton. "He was stuck, just kind of hanging around." Tipton said janitors noticed the man's legs hanging down from the ceiling and called police. Batista was freed about an hour later, apparently suffering no ill effects from his ordeal, and was booked into county jail for investigation of burglary.

Gummen hold up church ushers

NEW YORK (R) — Police were searching for two gunmen who robbed St. Patrick's Cathedral, one of New York's best-known churches, of more than \$7,000 gathered in collections earlier in the day. The Gothic Roman Catholic cathedral is a Manhattan landmark on fashionable Fifth Avenue. The robbery occurred in the parish house, which is connected to the cathedral by several underground passages. The gunmen, wearing ski masks and brandishing pistols, first accosted an usher who held a basement room which held the cathedral safe to check on security, police spokesman Edward Kulasa said. The holdup men then took him back at gunpoint to the basement where three other ushers waited. "They told one usher to turn the alarm system off and then ordered the ushers and two cleaning people who had walked into the situation to lie face down on the floor," Kulasa said. After they took the money they put the six people into the walk-in safe and locked a gate in front of it. He said no one was injured and police were working on a couple of leads to the gunmen's identity.

Two thirds of U.S. crimes go unreported

WASHINGTON (R) — Nearly two-thirds of crimes go unreported in the United States because victims considered the incidents unimportant or believed nothing could be done about them, the Justice Department has said. Only 35 per cent of the estimated 37,115,000 crimes committed in 1983 were reported to the police, the Bureau of Statistics, the department's information-gathering branch, said in a study. Only half of the six million violent crimes of rape, robbery and assault were reported, with victims most frequently saying it was a personal matter, it said.

5 sentenced to death for keeping firearms

KUALA LUMPUR (R) — A Malaysian court has sentenced five men to death for illegally possessing firearms, a court official said Monday. Under Malaysia's internal security act of 1960, anyone convicted of possessing firearms or ammunition without a permit faces a mandatory death sentence. The high court in Johore state found them guilty of having a total of eight types of pistols without a permit during a gunbattle with police in August 1982.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SEARAT
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WATCH THOSE SPOTS

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ K J
♥ 10 5 2
♦ Q J 6
♣ A 10 8 3 2

WEST
♠ 6 5 3
♥ J
♦ K 10 9 2
♣ Q 7 6 4

EAST
♠ 2
♥ C 9 6 7 6
♦ 8 7 5 3
♣ K J 5

SOUTH
♠ A Q 10 8 7 4
♥ A K 4 3
♦ A 4
♣ Void

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 ♥ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
4 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
5 ♠ Pass 6 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♣.

Every picture tells a story. In bridge, it is the cards that reveal all.

We endorse South's choice of opening bid. There is little chance that one spade will get passed out when his hand is so distributional, and to open with a demand bid might get the auction too high before South can find out all he needs to know about the potential of the hand. His bid over game asked about the quality of North's trumps, and with two honors North was certainly right to accept.

West's choice of opening lead dictated declarer's line of play. With the two of hearts to plain sight in dummy, the jack obviously had to be a short suit lead, so the danger of a heart ruff was imminent should East gain the lead.

After a central lead, declarer could have afforded to play ace and another diamond, setting up a diamond on the table, together with the ace of clubs, as parking spots for his two losing hearts. That was a luxury he could no longer afford. Nor could he cross to dummy with a trump to take a diamond finesse — if that lost, West could return a trump and sever declarer's communications with the board.

Declarer's solution was simple but elegant. He won the king of hearts, cashed the ace of diamonds, then crossed to dummy with a trump. On the ace of clubs he discarded his losing diamond. Now he led the queen of diamonds for a ruffing finesse. Had East covered, declarer would have ruffed, re-entered dummy with a trump and stuffed one of his hearts on the jack of diamonds, thus losing only one heart trick.

When East followed with a low diamond, declarer let go of a losing heart. West won the king, but the contract was impregnable. Declarer could win any return, get back to the board with a trump and get rid of his remaining low heart on the jack of diamonds.

Leftists hail 'successful' attack on Japan's railways

TOKYO (AP) — Marxist activists claimed Monday they caused "great damage" to Japan's railways last week when their sabotage paralysed major lines, affecting millions of commuters.

The radicals praised last Friday's acts in which "our revolutionary army rose simultaneously... in a revolt against the government in the metropolitan, Kansai (western Japan) and some other areas of western Japan."

The radicals, members of the "Chukaku-Ha" (Middle Core Faction), made the claim in leaflets passed out during a demonstration.

About 250 leftists demonstrated near the new Tokyo International Airport at Narita, 65 kilometres north east of Tokyo, a Chiba prefectural police official said.

Police believe Chukaku-Ha members cut communications cables at 34 points along Japanese National Railway (JNR) lines before dawn Friday.

Twenty-two train lines were brought to a standstill in Tokyo, neighbouring Chiba prefecture and Osaka.

Police said the centre in Kwangju that about five of the students entered the library Monday after showing identification cards.

They were said to have posed as ordinary visitors until the remainder of the group charged past guards at the centre's entrance.

Shouted slogans and posters pasted on the windows of the centre in Kwangju on Monday called on the United States to withdraw demands for import market openings and denounced the "fascist constitution" of the Seoul government. A Korean national flag

was displayed on one window.

South Korean government and business officials in recent months have accused the United States of moving towards protectionism, while demanding that Korea open wider its markets to U.S. goods.

Students opposed to the government of President Chun Doo-Hwan have made trade and economic complaints one of their protest themes.

Early in November a group of students occupied the U.S. Chamber of Commerce office in Seoul for several hours before police arrested them.

Last May, 73 student activists seized the U.S. Information Service library in downtown Seoul and occupied it for three days before pulling out. At that time, one of the students' chief demands was for an investigation and explanation of an uprising that took place in Kwangju in 1980.

The rebellion was put down by the army.

The provincial capital 200 miles (320 kilometres) south of Seoul. Mr. Fitzgerald said all visitors to the centre had been evacuated, but that some Korean employees remained in the building.

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